



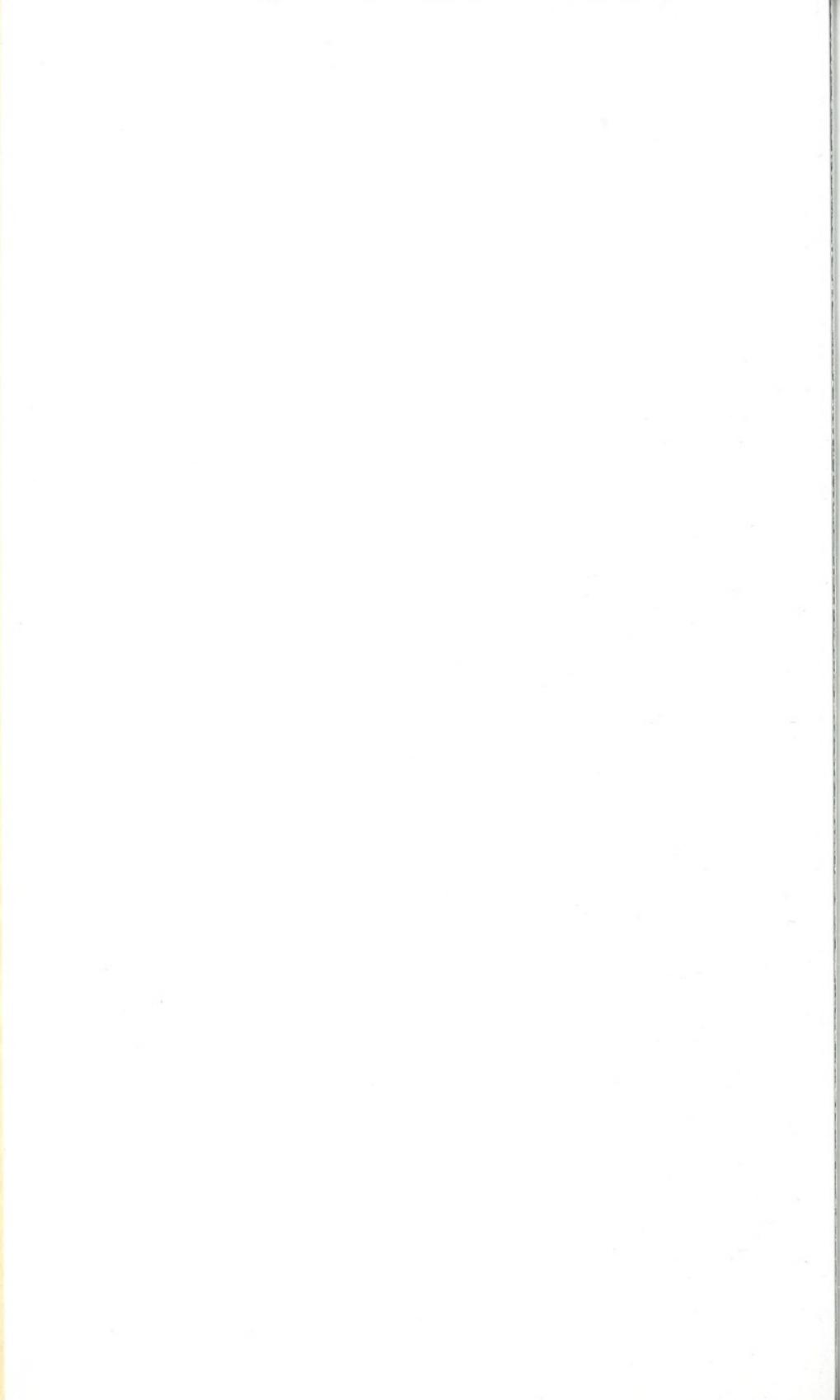






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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

JANUARY 1, 1986

NO. 1

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## ANOTHER YEAR IS DAWNING

Another year is dawning!  
Dear Master, let it be,  
In working or in waiting,  
Another year with Thee.  
  
Another year of progress,  
Another year of praise;  
Another year of proving  
Thy presence "all the days."

Another year of service,  
Of witness for Thy love;  
Another year of training  
For holier work above.

Another year is dawning!  
Dear Master, let it be,  
On earth, or else in heaven,  
Another year for Thee!

- Frances Havergal

## TOUCHING OTHER PEOPLE'S LIVES

During times of contemplation, many thoughts may meander through our minds. Many of them will be of little value. Others will be of great value and helpful to us in various ways. Still others will not be immediately valuable but will serve to stir up other related thoughts that will prove helpful. These germinal thoughts while not of any particular value themselves yet may indirectly lead to valuable thoughts.

We may contemplate upon many subjects. Some may be material and temporal; others may be Spiritual. The material and temporal certainly have a place in our lives. They are not as serious or as valuable in an eternal sense as thoughts upon Spiritual subjects. But sometimes our thoughts on worldly subjects may lead our minds to more important Spiritual subjects. After all, Jesus used many parables in His teaching of Spiritual lessons. The other Bible writers also used illustrations to make their lessons more easily understood. So it is not to be doubted but what our temporal thoughts might lead our minds to Spiritual thoughts also.

We are living in a time when there is a renewed interest in history, especially family history. It is said that knowing our past can help us live better lives now and in the future. If our family histories are no more than names, dates and places they can not help us much. There must be something there of personality and dedication. What were the ideals of those remembered in our histories?

When we think of the members of bygone generations, do we consider their place in a larger scope of history than just our own family? When thinking of grandparents, great-grandparents or others whom we have known in younger days do we realize what parts of our religious or national history have touched their lives.

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

JANUARY 1, 1986

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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If we as youngsters had contact with quite elderly relatives we then indirectly have a tenuous connection with some of the great historical events that happened when they were young. This might include wars, disasters, western settlement or many other developments that we think of as being before our own lifetime. In our religious history this may give us a connection with some of the events that have profoundly influenced the work of the Church.

How will our lives touch those who come after us. If time continues another several decades what events of our lives will those, we touch now, identify with us. What can we pass on to others who have not known our times as we have. Will there be only "good old times" stories that blur the truth or will it only be tough old times. Will there be a record of faithfulness in our religious lives or will it be a shifting with the times about us. We may not be very influential in the events of today but we may have an opportunity to be influential in the lives of those coming after us. How we touch them and influence them will be dependent upon how we are living right now.

When we think of older, now deceased, relatives who have touched our lives and of the generations we may yet touch, we think that that is quite a span of time we have been in the midst of. If we trace our family back eight or ten generations covering between two and three centuries we may think we have covered a long time for touching people. But this pales to almost nothing when we consider how Jesus continues to touch lives even though His earthly life was nearly two thousand years ago. When Jesus touches a life it is the touch of Eternity.

Jesus is eternal. He was before the world was created, He is now and He will be when this world is rolled up and disposed of. Our relationship with Him is more important than all of our earthly relationships. No matter how our ancestors have touched us, His touch is far more important. His touch is not for time only but for eternity as well. Our life here will come to an end. A change will be made. Then eternity will be upon us. How will it be for us? Will it be bliss or bitter?

We must allow Jesus to touch our lives. He never touches us without our permission. Through belief, repentance and baptism we are able to be touched by Him. Having been touched by Him we can touch other lives. Not in the same way He can but in a lesser degree we can touch other lives.

At the beginning of this new year we can carry on the touching of other lives. We will touch other lives either for good or ill. How will you touch those about you? How will you touch those who come after you?

## THE IMMINENT COMING

At the time of this writing, my wife and I are anxiously awaiting the arrival of our firstborn. We do not know the day or the hour this baby will arrive. But we know the time will be soon.

Because we know this baby is coming, we have done many things to get ready. The baby room has a fresh coat of light-green paint. A matching green carpet now graces the floor. The changing pad and powders, oils, and diapers are in place. There is some miniature-sized clothing in a dresser drawer. A small crib stands waiting to receive a sleeping baby. The suitcase has been packed, and the camera has a fresh roll of film. We try not to let the car's gas tank fall below half-full.

When we first suspected that a child had been conceived, we went to our family doctor. He confirmed that there was indeed a baby on the way. Then the size of mother's abdomen began to change. Later, we felt movement. The first time any movement was noticed was during a Prayer Meeting service. I could hardly keep from shouting out, "Praise the Lord!"

One evening during a visit to the doctor, he handed his stethoscope to me and I heard baby's heartbeat. I was overwhelmed with a sense of awe and wonder at God's handiwork. As the days went by, the movements gradually became more pronounced. Because of all these signs, we knew there was a baby coming!

Now we are waiting for the final moments of baby's arrival. There are several signs for which we are watching. We don't know what will happen first. But soon, labor pains will begin. The membranes may break. Contractions will start. Our plan is to go to the hospital where the doctor and his staff will assist in the birth of our child!

We must be ready — at any time — for baby's arrival. When I'm at work, I wait expectantly every time the phone rings, wondering if it's "THE CALL." Prospective grandmothers inquire almost daily to see if "everything's OK." Each day brings us closer to the big event. The chances of baby's arrival greatly increase with each day that passes by. We wait expectantly....

This experience reminds me of the Second Coming of our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ. Jesus tells us in John 14:3, "And if I go and prepare a place for you, I will come again, and receive you unto myself." Jesus is coming again! But we do not know exactly when Christ will return. "Watch therefore, for ye know neither the day nor the hour wherein the Son of Man cometh" Matthew 25:13.

The Word of God gives us quite a few signs that tell us Christ's coming is very close. Jesus tells us in Matthew 24 of signs that will occur around the time of His Second Coming. In the last days,

these signs will occur with increasing frequency and intensity. There are many signs, but consider the sign of the earthquakes.

During the first thousand years after the birth of Christ, there were an estimated five major earthquakes every century. But during the second thousand years, the earth seemed to become increasingly violent. In the Fifteenth Century, there were 174 earthquakes. Then in the Nineteenth Century, over 2,000 were reported. Scientists tell us that in the Twentieth Century, there's a tremor reported somewhere on the earth every minute.

The fact that there are more earthquakes in diverse places didn't mean much to me until recently. In south-central Pennsylvania, we have never experienced earthquakes. They were something that happened in California or some other far-away place. But one Sunday evening during preaching services, the church building shook for a few seconds! I thought the furnace was going to blow up or something. But there was nothing wrong with the furnace. Later, we found that we had experienced our first earthquake! Even south-central Pennsylvania is no longer a place of refuge from earthquakes. Jesus said that there shall be great earthquakes in divers places as a sign of the end.

There are many other signs of the Second Coming of Christ, but this example shows us that the time is sooner than it ever was before. Jesus says in Luke 21:28, "And when these things begin to come to pass, then look up, and lift up your heads; for your redemption draweth nigh."

What is important is that we are ready to meet Jesus either when He comes or when we go to Him (in death). Just as we are acting on our belief that a baby is coming, all of us need to do something about the coming of Christ.

Jesus tells us to be ready for His second coming. "Therefore be ye also ready: for in such an hour as ye think not the Son of man cometh." Matthew 24:44. We are to be ready to meet Jesus at any moment. We must repent and receive Jesus into our life, believing that He is the Son of God. Then we are to confess with our mouth the Lord Jesus, and believe with our heart that God did raise Him from the dead. We need to tell others what Jesus has done in our life. If we are truly concerned about the coming of Christ, we will be diligent about loving one another as He commanded. Are we truly ready to meet Jesus now?

What is in store for us here on earth? No man knows for sure. But just as we know that baby is coming, just so we know that Jesus is coming again. As we see signs of baby's coming, we get excited. But what we're really looking for is baby! We also get excited when we see signs of Christ's return come to pass. But what we're really

waiting and looking for is our Lord and Savior Jesus Christ!

Brother Robert Lehigh

P.S. Adam Samuel Lehigh arrived on Friday, October 11, 1985!  
Jesus is still lingering....

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"Walking the new life in the new year"

In the year of our Lord, 1986... we will be faced with many new challenges and opportunities... and either we will walk more closely with Him and become more mature or we will stagnate and let our hand drop from Him.

In I John 2:6, we read: "He that saith he abideth in him ought himself also to walk even as he walked." That thought should challenge us as we understand that Jesus came to earth to furnish a new pattern for life on this planet. The devil had furnished the pattern before. He had become the prince of the world and he had entered into every phase of life here below. He had entered into the flesh and indwelt it. He had entered into the human body and indwelt it. And he had taken over the affairs of men and through their minds worked out their own destruction.

So God sent His Son Jesus to earth in order to change all of this. God also furnished Him with a body which was in all respects like ours. He had the same human nature which we experience and He was completely sold out to the Father and to Him alone.

Jesus instituted a walk here on earth in such a way that even while He was walking here, yet He was entirely SEPARATED from the world. And though He was living in a material society, yet He was sustained entirely from the spirit world... depending on Heaven for everything. That is walking the NEW LIFE. And we are to walk as He walked. We are taught by Paul in Philippians 2, "Have this mind in you, which was also in Christ Jesus: who, being in the form of God, thought it not robbery to be equal with God:".... "... and became obedient unto death..." Jesus was as we are. He did not make use of His Godly powers but handed Himself over to the Father's will and walked totally in the new life as an example for us.

Jesus says that in exactly the same way as the Father sent Him, so He sends us. We are to depend totally on Spirit leading and control and not our own power and wisdom. The Holy Spirit in us will accomplish God's perfect work in us.

When Jesus laid aside the use of His powers as God, He actually took a place below us. God made Him "a little lower than the angels." Jesus humbled Himself, taking on the form of a servant and humbled Himself further by His death on the cross. As a result of

that submissiveness and obedience, God raised Him up and gave Him a Name that is above every name, that at the Name of Jesus every knee should bow and every tongue confess that He is Lord. When we lay down our powers as man, we are brought down to a position of dependence and personal identification with Him. As we are stripped of pride and independence and become helpless before God, He will walk with us and we will be able to follow in His footsteps. He can literally walk out His life through us.

Because of your adamic nature, you are going to be disposed to sin. It will be impossible to get rid of this sinful disposition as long as you are in this life, however, your old nature no longer need control you. In Christ, your bondage is gone. The world should no longer have its power over you and you need not worry about its customs or dictates... or even its wisdom. If you walk as Jesus walked, you give up your own rights to Him. You live a life of an overcomer... a life offered as a sacrifice on Calvary for others. This is the sacrifice that brings Satan to nought, destroys his works, looses his bonds and strips him of his ill-gotten power.

When you committed your life to Jesus at baptism, you surrendered your rights, your family, your friends, your home, your reputation, traditions and ideas to Him. You threw self completely out and entered the new world of sonship. It meant not looking back or seeking fulfillment outside of God's purposes. It meant that accomplishments would be measured by His standards. It meant you committed your life to sacrifice... even as Jesus was the Living Sacrifice. You are not your own as you have been purchased with the ultimate price... the blood of Christ.

In Matthew 16:24, Jesus talks of self denial. You are to have a will to serve and Satan will constantly act against that will. But God will respect it and with the Holy Spirit dwelling within you, you will have success. And remember, willing is not the same thing as wishing or wanting, yearning or longing. Willing is making a transaction with God, even as Jesus did at the Jordan, and going all the way.

Will you let God have your life in 1986... all of it? Will you be joyful and thankful for everything that transpires, whether great or small, easy or difficult? Will you let Him run the whole show? Will you trust Him simply and fully? If you do, the year will spring into a bundle of activity for Him, energized by the Holy Spirit. You will be more fulfilled than you ever have been before. Life will be sweet and fresh.

Meet Jesus on His terms. Take up your cross and follow Him. Don't just SAY that you are willing to do it, but ACT on it. This is God's will for your life.

Challenged with you,  
Brother Leonard Wertz

## THE FIRST YEAR

There's a saying that this day is the first day of the rest of your life. You can also say this year is the first year of the rest of your life. You can use it for many things, and the choice is yours. You can use it as a year to please God, or as a year to please yourself. You can use the time to help others, or to hinder them, to lift people up or knock them down. You can use the year to tell people about Jesus, or as a time to hide your light 'under a bushel'. The question is — what will you do with it?

The new year and its activities can set the pace for the rest of your life. You can make wise choices now and reap a good harvest later, or live foolishly now and reap the consequences later. Choices made each day will affect your future on this earth, and your Eternal future as well. This relationship can't be avoided. "Whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Gal. 6:7. It pays to consider what you're doing and what the consequences will be.

"Behold, now is the accepted time; behold, now is the day of salvation." II Cor. 6:2. There is no time better than the present in which to get started really serving the Lord. Putting it off only invites more heartache and trouble. But starting the year out with Jesus increases our possibilities of doing good, and of having a blessed year. It's not worth it to take a chance and put off doing what we know we should.

"For he that soweth to his flesh shall of the flesh reap corruption." Gal. 6:8. The person who is living just for today, who is living to please himself will reap accordingly. He or she has chosen to use this new year for self-indulgence, rather than to seek Jesus. He is shoved into the background, rather than being given His rightful position. Christ must come first, and if we don't put Him first, we are seeking to please only ourselves.

"He that soweth to the Spirit shall of the Spirit reap life everlasting." Gal. 6:8. Sowing comes before reaping, and what we sow determines exactly what we'll reap. We don't need to wonder if it pays to serve Jesus this year — we already have the answer in His Word. To know before we start that it pays to serve Jesus is a real blessing. Very few things in life give us any assurance of the end result, but Jesus has already revealed His reward. For those who obey Him, He has promised Eternal Life.

If you choose to serve Jesus, you can be sure 1986 will truly be the first year of the rest of your life. Even if your earthly life ends, your life will go on in Eternity. Eternity is always close at hand, as physical life can end very abruptly and unexpectedly. But you don't need to live in fear of death if you belong to Jesus. If you do your best for Him, you will be rewarded, and even if your year isn't a perfect one, you can still say it has been good.

"Then Isaac sowed in that land, and received in the same year an hundredfold: and the Lord blessed him." Gen. 26:12. Isaac sowed naturally and received a natural blessing — in abundance. Psa. 65:11 says "Thou crownest the year with thy goodness", speaking again of natural abundance. But God also sends abundant spiritual blessings to those who serve Him. If we 'sow in the land' as God directs us to do, He can provide more than we can even think to ask. See Eph. 3:20. Make 1986 the first year of the rest of your life — your abundant life in Christ. All good things begin with Him!

Sister Eileen Broadwater  
R. 1, Pioneer, Ohio 43554

## **BE STILL AND KNOW THAT I AM GOD**

Psalms 46:10

Be still and know thy Lord,  
for I am He alone,  
Be still and know that I am God,  
I sit upon the throne.

Then when the darkness comes,  
and doubts and fears arise;  
Be still and know that I am God,  
have faith and be thou wise.

And when the flesh and eyes,  
would seek things that are vain,  
Be still and know that I am God,  
I promise richer gain.

And when the pride of life,  
would captivate thy breast,  
Be still and know that I am God,  
the contrite soul is blessed.

Or if thy spirit droops  
and all around seems drear,  
Be still and know that I am God,  
look up I'm ever near.

At the great judgment day  
when all the world stands by,  
You then will know that I am God,  
no one will dare deny.

Help me, Oh God, I pray  
deny my stubborn will,  
Then I shall tread the narrow way,  
and evermore be still.

- J. C. Lavy

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

January 1, 1926

### PAYING THE PRICE

D. F. Lepley

Dear Brother, Sister, are you willing to pay the price of a carnal life?

What do I mean?

Just this — You may belong to the best church there is in the world — that particular church or denomination that accepts the "whole Gospel."

You may subscribe to everything, all the doctrines that your church holds as fundamental and vital, you may profess your allegiance to that church, you may profess to the world that you believe all of these things, but does the world, the sinful world, believe you?

Does your every day life and your association and dealings with the world, does your daily contact with sinners convince them that you are what you profess to be — A Child of God?

If this is true of you, brethren, then why does the world know so little about our church, who do sinners seem to know so little about her people, who do so few hardened sinners believe your professions and recognize you as one of God's children and be moved to accept your church and her doctrines as the power that can save a sinner from death?

Can it be true of us as a people that our professions do not mean anything, that all that the world sees in our lives is only our professions?

The sinners of Antioch knew that Paul's converts were Christians because their lives corresponded exactly with Paul's description of Christ but do sinners of your town and your community recognize you in that same way, or do they think of us as "whited sepulchres", as Jesus said of the Pharisees in his day?

My dear brethren, these are serious things, we are facing a serious situation as we stand before a sinful and an accusing world.

Paul, if he were here in our midst today, would no doubt say to us as he did to his Corinthian brethren, "are you not carnal"?

And I fear that he might even liken us to the enlightened and educated Athenians that were "religious", who, lest they might have missed doing homage to all of the gods, they imagined there were, were even willing to erect a shrine to a god that they did not know.

Brethren is it possible that this might be true of us?

That we have either forgotten, or that we have not yet learned to KNOW the one and only true God, "in whom we live and move and have our being", the God who is not far from every one of us.

Every cause has its corresponding effect. And brethren, when those who have eyes that see, must acknowledge their consciousness of the lamentable fact that the sinful world is becoming more and more sinful, and that the saving power of the Church, over hardened sinners, her power to make "new creatures" out of them, is becoming weaker, then to what cause shall we lay this deplorable effect, unless it be to the carnality of our lives. Lives that bear "only leaves", while a sin sick, dying world is hungering for the "fruit", the life giving, soul satisfying, soul healing "fruit" of the self emptied, heart cleansed, consecrated Child of God.

My brethren if you doubt the soul hunger of sinful men all about you, then let God burn out of your heart, every vestige of your carnal, earthly nature and crucify your carnal life, and let them see that you bear "fruit" instead of "leaves" only. And let them taste of the goodness of that "fruit", and you can then no longer doubt that there is a longing after God in the hearts of the vilest sinners, but they find not that in the lives of His professed children which satisfies their soul hunger and they perish.

Oh! My brethren, do we realize that we are piling up an awful burden of doubt to God, by failing in our responsibility for the lives of sinners all about us, from day to day?

Are you willing to pay this debt — the price of your carnal life, when the day of reckoning comes?

"Thou art thy brothers keeper."

## THE GUIDING LIGHT

Through Christ's coming the way is open whereby we can be saved. He commanded His disciples to go therefore into all the world and preach the Gospel to all nations teaching them all things He has commanded.

By doing His commandments we can become a light to those who are living in darkness. It appears today many professing Christians are not a light in this dark and sinful world. When Jesus was here He said many honor Him with their lips but their hearts are far from Him.

He taught by example and precept. He said to love one another as I have loved you. We should be kind and patient one to another and abide by the golden rule. We need all the fruits of the Spirit and should bear the infirmities of the weak and not to please ourselves. We are living in a day when many are preparing for life in this world only. They have no sympathy for the ill, no respect for the aged and

are overcome by the sinful lusts of the flesh.

"Bear ye one another's burdens and so fulfill the law of Christ." Do we share in the bearing of burdens? Are we a comfort and consolation to those who can not take care of themselves? It should be our desire that we become a help and blessing to others. "Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy."

When Christ was here in person he was a comfort and consolation to the ill. Among those in whom Christian love exists the sharing of the bearing of burdens exists. We cannot be a bright and Christian light without love. We should not hinder or oppose others for their good works. True Christians will accept the spreading of the gospel and are a light to those who are living in darkness. Help us to help each other hold up each other's cross.

Christian let your light shine  
All along the way,  
You may guide a wonderer  
To eternal day.

Have we accepted the guiding light that leads to eternal glory? A glorious reward is awaiting those who are faithful and true and become a bright shining light in this dark and sinful world. The righteous shine as the stars in the sky and are laying up for themselves treasures in Heaven. The true Christian is a light to the world. "A city set on a hill cannot be hid neither do men light a candle and put it under a bushel."

We are living in a day many professing Christians are no light in this dark and sinful world. They have made a promise to renounce Satan's pernicious ways and all the sinful pleasures of this world and are not true to the promise. We can have salvation if we are faithful and true to the trust Christ left us.

Jesus came and opened a way, whereby we can be saved. The light of the world is Jesus, author of the saving Gospel. In it the light is shining. For those faithful and true the reward is eternal life. There is also a reward for those who fail to accept the plan of salvation. In the saving Gospel is life. Have we accepted it and become a bright and shining light in this dark and sinful world? We need the light to guide us day and night. Blessed Jesus take our hands.

Brother J. F. Marks  
5225 Sundial Loop  
Plant City, FL 33566



Christians never see each other for the last time.

## THE BODY OF CHRIST

The Church is the body of Christ  
From young to very old,  
It is like this human body -  
Working parts of the "fold."

God gives everyone some talents  
And all are not the same...  
So if we cannot preach like Paul -  
Then we are not to blame.

If the Lord shall give us wisdom -  
Then we shall not glory -  
But with a spirit of meekness  
Study His great story.

He gives us our understanding, —  
We CAN glory in this -  
That we know His loving kindness,  
Judgment and righteousness.

We'll use what God has given us  
To make our life worthwhile,  
We'll be cheerful, thankful members  
Going the "second mile."

In this body, we need the "foot" —  
We need also, the "hand,"  
The "head" and "smelling" are useful, -  
God gives each one of them.

If the whole body were an "eye"  
Where would the "hearing" be?  
How can one say to another -  
"I have no need of thee?"

We are given a mind to think  
And God's spirit to lead...  
While His WRITTEN WORD WILL GUIDE US,  
On IT we are to "feed."

We're submissive to each other  
In the fear of the Lord -  
Giving thanks to God and Jesus,  
Living in one accord.

Then when we're lacking in something  
God will always provide...  
Pray earnestly for the best gifts,  
Keeping close to His side.

Be ye kind one to another,  
Using the gifts God gave -  
Clinging fast to what Jesus taught -  
Our souls striving to save.

- Sister Irene Stout

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

By J. H. Moore

*Editor's Note:* Elder J. H. Moore published a small book in 1914 that in simple terms explained the doctrines in the New Testament. These teachings are valuable to us today. It is our plan to include a chapter of his book in each issue as space permits. May they be helpful to each reader.

### INTRODUCTION

It was in 1708 that eight devout men and women, residing in Schwarzenau, Germany, met from day to day to study the Scriptures, with a view of ascertaining the will of God, as set forth in the Sacred Volume. They put aside all creeds and confessions of faith, that they might be free to accept the whole truth as it came to them. After studying the Word for months, it became evident that there was no body of people in all Europe, known to them, who, in their faith and practice, lined up with the form of doctrine enjoined upon the followers of Christ. After much earnest prayer it occurred to them that they could do no wiser thing than to form themselves into a working body, and to restore to the church, thus constituted, the primitive order of worship and service. Being of one mind and heart, regarding the teachings of the Gospel, they cut loose from all former church affiliations, agreed together in accepting the New Testament as their rule of faith and practice, and proceeded to carry out, step by step, what the Inspired Volume demands.

Early one morning they went to the nearby river Eder, were buried with Christ in baptism, and the same day organized themselves into a Christian body, made choice of Alexander Mack as their minister, and began to preach and put into practice what they conceived to be the "all things" set forth in the Written Word. Having settled on the New Testament as their rule in all religious affairs, it was an easy matter to accept the light as it came to them.

They builded better than they knew. The reform movement spread, and hundreds accepted the faith, but on account of persecution practically the whole membership emigrated to America from 1719 to 1729. The plea of these earnest people was well received, and since then churches have been organized from the Atlantic to the Pacific; Conferences have been formed; colleges have been built

up; foreign missions have been opened, and a splendidly-equipped Publishing House has been established, with church and Sunday school activities put into operation.

.... The author does not aim at literary finish. His purpose is to set forth the doctrines of the New Testament in the simplest possible manner, so they can be understood by any one who may chance to read the book. The chapters are short, and yet they are intimately related, and the line of thought is such as to make easy and, we trust, helpful reading.

## NEWS ITEMS

### APPRECIATION

A few lines to tell each of you how we appreciated the many prayers, calls, cards, and other items sent our way throughout Ray's and my stay in the hospital and afterwards. I was able to go to Church after missing four weeks. Praise God for what He can do and will do.

The James and Marie Noecker Family



### WOMAN OF POMPEII

It is said that among the recent discoveries in the ruins of Pompeii, a city that was destroyed by volcanic eruption in A.D. 79, was woman in the act of gathering in her apron, rings, bracelets and other valuable articles of jewelry. It would seem that some wealthy persons, aware of the coming destruction, had made their escape and left these things behind, as worthless in comparison with life; but she, hoping to save both life and jewels, delayed the time of her flight, and alas, was overwhelmed in the terrific judgment, and so lost both her life and the treasure.



### SENTINEL'S DUTY

A Christian's watchfulness should be like that of a good soldier. A sentinel, posted on the walls of a fortress, when he discerns the enemy approaching, does not attempt to make an attack upon the foe himself, but informs the commanding officer, and leaves him to take proper measures to vanquish the enemy. We cannot conquer so wily and powerful a foe as Satan, but by watching and praying, we may hope, by the help of God, to resist him.

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(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

JANUARY 15, 1986

NO. 2

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

---

## GOD'S GOSPEL

God, in the Gospel of his Son,  
Makes his eternal counsels known;  
'Tis here his richest mercy shines,  
And truth is drawn in fairest lines.

Wisdom its dictates here imparts,  
To form our minds, to cheer our hearts,  
Its influence makes the sinner live;  
It bids the drooping saint revive.

Our raging passions it controls,  
And comfort yields to contrite souls;  
It brings a better world in view,  
And guides us all our journey through.

May this blest volume ever lie  
Close to my heart, and near my eye,  
Till life's last hour my soul engage,  
And be my chosen heritage.

- Benjamin Beddome

## THIS WAY, MORE PERFECTLY

Acts 18:24-28

Apollos had a sincere desire to serve God, but he did not have a complete understanding of what was required. He had been taught only the baptism of John the Baptist. This was alright as far as it went but it was not fully in compliance with the Lord's instructions for the New Testament Church. John's ministry and baptism had served as a bridge between the Old and the New Testaments. He had served as the forerunner of Christ. As the substance is better than the shadow, so Christ is superior to John. Thus John's instructions were superseded by those of Jesus.

Apollos was sincere but that was not quite enough. There was a better way than what he knew. He was a docile student willing to learn that way. Aquila and Priscilla were willing teachers who taught him what he needed to know to proclaim the whole truth of God's Gospel to men. His former views had been sincerely held but he was willing to receive the better way as taught him. He became a valuable minister of the Gospel laboring in conjunction with Paul. Paul referred to his own sowing of the Spiritual seed which Apollos watered by preaching a little later the same Gospel to a people now ready to receive what Paul had given them at a former time. All of this was God's doing. He gave the increase but he involved these two preachers in His work. God could do the work without men but here He used two so neither could claim credit for the result yet the two could share in the blessing of souls saved from wrath.

Many, today, are like Apollos. They have a sincere desire to serve God but they, like Apollos, do not fully know or understand the way. They, perhaps, have rested their Christian profession upon certain fundamentals but they have failed to go on beyond these certain

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

JANUARY 15, 1986

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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basic doctrines into the total life lived according to God's Word. Many have never heard of anything beyond a need for faith in Christ and a need for a moral life. They have not been permitted to learn of the way more perfectly as revealed in God's Word. Many, perhaps, have only a foggy, sentimental vision of what being a child of God entails. If as willing as Apollos to learn of the way more perfectly, they, too, may become productive laborers in God's moral vineyard.

Our Spiritual forefathers at Schwarzenau were willing to accept new and better teaching. They had diligently studied their Bibles before they took the radical step of organizing a new group of believers. They were in between the powerful state-churches and the fanatical, separatist groups. They had decided that to carry out the commands given in the New Testament it was imperative for them to be organized into a body. They were sure enough of their course that they were willing to face their opponents on either side. They took the step of organizing. But they did not wish to "slam the door" on any further light they might receive from their further studies of the Word. Since there were only eight of them they could have felt so insignificant that they wished the further counsel they would receive when more were attracted to and identified with their number. There were minor points during the first few decades that were adjusted according to a more perfect understanding of the requirements of the New Testament.

Some have allowed the possibility of new light to keep them from keeping the commandments already established. They, in error, expect some new light to counteract the ordinances and rules that they do not want to keep anyway. Even if new light were to be given, still any true, new light will not be contrary to what has already been revealed. It is our duty to follow the truth we have and not worry about something new. The Holy Spirit will not reveal anything to us that would be contrary to the Word of God which was originally inspired by Him. There is no division within God.

Instead of looking for some new light, which may be but a confirmation of our own prejudice, we should yield ourselves to be teachable in the doctrines already revealed to and practiced by the Church. There is plenty for us to learn and even more for us to practice. We can never comprehend all there is in the Word of God so we should be willing while studying it to receive more instruction in Christian living.

We should be willing students like Apollos. Then we can sow or water the good seed and let God give the increase. We can be a part of His plan to bring forth fruit. We must know the way more perfectly.

## FOR JESUS

There is a song containing these words, "I wonder how John felt when he baptized Jesus." (see Matt. 3:13-17) We don't know exactly how he felt, we just know John didn't want to do it, but he submitted to Jesus' request. There were others who did special things for Jesus, like Martha who fixed Him meals, and the woman who anointed Him. People walked beside Jesus, and witnessed miracles. Some even helped with the miracles, as in the feeding of the large crowds, and serving the wine at the wedding. Each of these had a special experience with Jesus present, but for us now, it's a bit different.

Jesus is not present with us, but this does not mean we can't do anything for Him. There is plenty we can do, but the method is now different. All we do is either for Jesus, or against Him and His purpose, even though the method is different. We now do things for each other, as Jesus pointed out in Matt. 25:31-46. "Inasmuch as ye have done it unto one of the least of these my brethren, ye have done it unto me," or "inasmuch as ye did it not....". We are either doing for Jesus, or not doing anything for Him. There is no neutral ground.

The things we do for each other need to be motivated by love, and by a genuine, heart-felt concern. Helping each other just to be neighborly is good, but it's not enough. Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." John 14:15. All things which we do for Jesus and for others should begin and end with love. Love and true Christian compassion go together and insure a successful outreach, the kind which touches hearts. Without this basic quality, we would soon give up on helping others.

Jesus always expressed appreciation for things done for Him while on earth, and He appreciates what we do also. Our hands are the tools He uses, and our hearts are the messengers of His love. Jesus committed much to our care when He left this earth, and it is a big responsibility, but He also gives us the strength we need to serve Him. In all we do for Jesus, we can be sure He will do much more for us — we can't outgive Him!

Love sharpens our senses, and makes us more sensitive to the needs of others. Love keeps us serving Jesus when life gets discouraging. Love for Jesus and others helps us to not give up, but to remember that our labour is not in vain in the Lord. (see I Cor. 15:58)

"For the Son of man is as a man taking a far journey, who left his house, and gave authority to his servants, and to every man his work, and commanded the porter to watch." Mark 13:34. Jesus left this earth, but will return someday. In the meantime, He has work for all of us to do. In His absence, we are to carry on the work for Him.

Especially we are to give out the Gospel, the good news of salvation. And, our lives should show that we really do serve Jesus.

"And went to him, and bound up his wounds, pouring in oil and wine, and set him on his own beast, and brought him to an inn, and took care of him." Luke 10:34. The man gave help even though no one assigned him the task. He took care of the immediate physical needs, and also provided for further care for this injured man. This Samaritan did all he could for the one in need, and that's what we ought to do — as if we were doing it unto Jesus. A half-hearted effort, or ignoring a need is not pleasing to Him. A deep, heart-involvement is required.

"The Lord God hath given me the tongue of the learned, that I should know how to speak a word in season to him that is weary." Isa. 50:4. No matter what our position in life, we tend to get discouraged. At such times, we need words of encouragement from someone. Jesus wants us to encourage each other, and to pass on for Him the promise of His care. If we can encourage someone, we'll be doing that also — for Jesus.

"Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17. There is much good to do — for Jesus. We need to be busy doing what we can — for Jesus. If we do, in the end we can say, "I have fought a good fight, I have finished my course, I have kept the faith..." — all for Jesus. (II Tim. 4:7)

Sister Eileen Broadwater



### DOUBTERS ANSWERED

A professor in one of the leading colleges went to the president with his doubts upon the subject of endless punishment, and confessed that he could "hardly believe the doctrine." "I couldn't believe it at all if the Bible did not teach it," was the president's reply. An aged minister once preached on the subject of eternal punishment. On the next day a young man visited the preacher and said: "I believe there is a small dispute between you and me, sir." "Ah, what is it?" asked the minister. "Why," replied the youth, "You say that the wicked will go into everlasting punishment, and I do not think that they will." "Oh, if that is all," answered the preacher, "there is no dispute between you and me. If you turn to Matt. 25:46, you will find that the dispute is between you and the Lord Jesus Christ, and I advise you to go immediately and settle it with Him."

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### Devotion to God

One of the most important features of the Christian walk should be a TOTAL devotion to Christ. The Word tells us that Enoch walked with God, and Enoch pleased God. His walk with God relates to his relationship with Him or his devotion to Him and his pleasing God speaks of the behavior that was resultant of that relationship. It is totally impossible to build a Christian behavior pattern without the foundation of a devotion to the Master. The practice of godliness is first of all the cultivation of a life that is pleasing to God. Our concept of Him and our relationship with Him determines our conduct.

Devotion to God consists of three essential elements: the fear of God, the love of God and the desire for God.

The "God-fearing Christian" almost seems to be a concept that is old-fashioned and antiquated to many modern-day Christians. There was a time when an earnest believer might have been known as a "God-fearing man." Today we would probably be embarrassed by such language. Many see this idea as provincial and as an Old Testament concept that passed away with the revelation of God's love in Christ. They misuse the I John 4:18 scripture that relates that "perfect love casteth out fear..." Although it is true that the concept of the fear of God is treated more extensively in the Old Testament, it is a mistake to believe that it is not important in the New Testament.

The fear of the Lord coupled with the comfort of the Holy Spirit must be the character of the New Testament church. Only then will it be multiplied. Paul and Peter both used the fear of the Lord as a motive for righteous and holy living. Jesus delighted in the fear of the Lord. How can we do any less?

Some of the aversion to this phrase might be due to not understanding its meaning. The Bible uses the term "fear of God" in two ways: (1) that of anxious dread, and (2) that of reverence and awe. Fear as anxious dread is caused by realizing God's impending judgment upon sin. An example of that is Adam hiding from God because he was afraid because of his sin. We are to work out our salvation with "fear and trembling (Phil. 2:12)... a reverent fear."

The greater meaning, however, of fear is honor, reverence and awe of God's power. It is an attitude that elicits from our hearts adoration and love. It focuses upon His majesty and holiness. John fell at Jesus' feet as though dead in Revelation 1 and the angelic beings of Isaiah's vision in chapter 6 of that book shows the realization of a holy God.

It is impossible to be devoted to God if our heart is not filled with the "fear of God." It shows reverential awe of God's glory and childlike confidence in Him as the heavenly Father.

Even modern prayers have become casual and flippant in addressing God. None of the godly men of the Bible ever adopted the casual manner we often use today. They always addressed God with reverence. We must again begin to view Him in the infinite majesty that alone belongs to Him who is the Creator and Supreme Ruler of the universe. We can't pull Him down to our level of communication or terminology. We must focus on His attributes of power, justice and greatness. God desires that we grow in both holiness and godliness and He wants us to reverence and adore Him for all of eternity. We must be learning to do that now.

Modern Christendom's "love of God" has overshadowed their "fear of God." We should not revel in His love and mercy without having vividly in sight His majesty and His holiness. We must have a great sense of His presence, an awareness of our obligation to Him and an understanding of our devotion to Him. If we understand God's hatred for sin, then it will influence and regulate our conduct. With honest reverence will come willing obedience since every act of disobedience is an affront to His majesty and dignity.

Only as we "fear" Him can we appreciate His love. We can never forget that we were one time an object of His holy and just wrath and only because of Jesus' bearing our sins in His own body was that wrath abated. The love of God has no real meaning apart from Calvary. And Calvary has no meaning apart from the holy and just wrath of a living God. Jesus didn't die just to give us peace and purpose in life; He died to save us from God's wrath. He died to reconcile us to a holy God from whom we were alienated because of our sins. Our appreciation for that love is only shown in our devotion to Him. The more we see our own sinfulness, the more we comprehend God's love.

True godliness engages our affections and awakens us to a desire to enjoy God's presence and fellowship. It produces a longing for fellowship with Him. You might have a quiet time, might read the Bible and pray, but do you really long for God, wanting to enjoy a deep fellowship with Him. I fear that our Christianity is too shallow and "practical" for that many times. Dare to be as devoted as Paul. Dare to involve yourself with God as David did. He continues to knock on the door of our heart and if we hear Him, He will come in and fellowship with us. He desires that we come to know Him better. And as we do, we will radiate His glory in a way that is warm and inviting, never cold or forbidding.

Fear... love... desire... all complement and reinforce each other and produce within our souls an intense desire to be devoted to God. You might be talented, personable or very busy in Christian service and still not be godly because you lack devotion. Let your life take on this new dimension and reflect the very stamp of God.

Brother Leonard Wertz

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

January 15, 1926

### ENDURANCE

Rueben Shroyer

Endurance. The power to endure; fortitude, durability. - Webster.

The New Standard Dictionary gives the following definition of the word. To suffer or bear, as pain, sorrow or destructive force without injury or giving way. From this it will be seen that the word has an active meaning but the activity implied in the word is directed no so much against the thing that is endured, as against the temptation to give way under pressure. Hence the injunction, "Be not OVERCOME with evil." (Rom. 12:21). In Mark 4:17 the word is used in connection with persecution, and the class, or stony ground, hearers in the parable of the sower, the people ENDURE BUT FOR A TIME. In Matt. 24:12, in His Olivet discourse our Lord, after having told His disciples some of the things they would suffer for his name's sake, said: "But he that shall ENDURE unto the end shall be saved." Persecution is one of the greatest tests of endurance. The Apostle Paul knew this. In II Timothy 3:11 he speaks of the persecution he endured. The Thessalonian believers were commended by Paul for their Faith, their patience, in all their persecutions which they endured. (II Thess. 1:4).

In II Timothy 4:5 Timothy is told to "Endure afflictions, do the work of an evangelist." Suffering affliction will be the lot of every one who preaches the true gospel especially if that message is backed by a holy and unselfish life, as it was in the case of Paul, not as pleasing men but God which trieth our hearts. (I Thess. 2:4).

Our afflictions which we consider heavy, God says are light and but for a moment. A far more exceeding and eternal weight of glory will be the reward for all those who ENDURE the same for His name's sake. (II Cor. 4:17).

We are to endure chastening as the children of God. We are not the children of God if we are not partakers of this chastening. Now chastening is not pleasant but grievous, but afterwards it yieldeth the peaceable fruits of righteousness to them that are exercised thereby (Heb. 12:7). Chastisement will cause us to bear fruit and thus glorify God. We are to endure grief, suffering wrongfully. (I Peter 2:19). This is one of the severe tests of endurance. "For hereunto were ye called. Because Christ also suffered for us, leaving us an example, that ye should follow his steps. Who when he was reviled, reviled not again."

Jesus in Matt. 5:11-12 says, "Blessed are ye when men shall revile

you, and persecute you, and shall say all manner of evil against you falsely for my sake. Rejoice and be exceedingly glad for great is your reward in heaven. For so persecuted they the prophets which were before you." The man of God is enjoined to ENDURE HARDNESS as a good soldier of Jesus Christ. (II Tim. 2:3).

Many have started out in the service of God and failed because they expected an EASY time of it. They were unable to ENDURE hardness as good soldiers. The poet caught the right idea when he said, "Must I be carried to the skies on flowery beds of ease, While others fought to win the prize, And sailed through bloody seas?" Paul said, "I endure all things for the elect's sake, that they may also obtain the salvation which is in Christ Jesus with eternal glory." The crown of life is promised to those who endure temptation. Just think, a crown for just enduring temptation! Then there is the endurance of waiting of which Abraham is a striking example. After he had patiently endured he obtained the promise. (Heb. 6:15). "Behold we count them happy which endured. Ye have heard of the patience of Job, and have seen the end of the Lord; That the Lord is very pitiful and of tender mercy." (James 5:16). Marvelous example of endurance is Job. In spite of all, Job maintained his integrity and continued to declare his faith in God. He bore it all without giving way. The Lord blessed the latter end of Job more than his beginning. (Job 42:12).

Moses endured, as seeing him who is invisible. (Heb. 11:27). Finally "consider him that endured such contradiction of sinners against himself lest ye be wearied and faint in your mind." (Heb. 12:3). "for the joy that was set before him endured the cross despising the shame and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God. He that endureth unto the end shall be saved."

## THE NEED FOR A CONSISTENT WITNESS

Galatians 2:11-12 "But when Peter was come to Antioch, I withstood him to the face, because he was to be blamed. For before that certain came from James, he did eat with the Gentiles: but when they were come, he withdrew and separated himself, fearing them which were of the circumcision."

There is a movement within the earthly church that we believe is a part of the great apostacy which was prophesied for the last days. While we realize not all will agree with us, we believe the scriptures teach that the last days started at Pentecost and will continue until the end of the age. No matter how you interpret the last days the scriptures teach that as time goes by there will be greater deception to contend with. II Timothy 3:13 "But evil men and seducers shall

wax worse and worse, deceiving and being deceived." For some reason unknown to us this verse is usually applied to things of the world. But the entire chapter is a warning to the church, not a teaching of worldly happenings. This is a part of our concern. It has become increasingly popular to try to "christianize" those outside the church while church discipline is almost unheard of.

The last two verses of II Timothy 3 are quoted often. "All scripture is given by inspiration of God, and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction, for instruction in righteousness. That the man of God may be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works." While it has probably been done, we do not recall hearing a sermon or reading an article that really looks at what these verses are saying. With the help of the Holy Spirit, hopefully, we wish to do just that.

First of all, all scripture is given by inspiration of God. We believe that the Holy Spirit was speaking of both the old and the new testaments, even though Paul probably did not realize this at the time it was written. We must accept all the truths God has given from Genesis to Revelation. It has become popular in many church circles to deny that there are absolute truths within scripture. Everything is left open to individual interpretation. This includes such basic doctrines as the virgin birth, the sinless life, the bodily resurrection, ascension, and literal coming again of our Lord Jesus Christ! There was the time when such senseless arguments came from those who denied the inspiration of scriptures. But today there are those who claim to believe the Bible is the word of God and subscribe personally to these basic doctrines. But they say, and this is very important, that it is not necessary to accept these truths for salvation.

Next we find that scripture is profitable for doctrine. If you want to get into trouble with a large segment of the earthly church just mention the word DOCTRINE. We are aware of the fact that this has separated the earthly church into many different denominations and groups. It has also split many congregations "down the middle." So do we then just ignore doctrine? While it is quite popular to either ignore or lambast doctrine, we do not see how we can do this and remain true to scripture. We could quote many verses that teach the need of doctrine. But it is not sufficient to say that the Bible IS doctrine. One of the doctrines taught repeatedly throughout scripture is the doctrine of love. We believe this must be applied when we get into the area of individual "church doctrine." But true love is not keeping quiet about personal convictions, but sharing them. In that great love chapter, I Corinthians 13, we read, "(love) Rejoiceth not in iniquity, but rejoiceth in the truth." It is here that the

argument of interpretation gets its greatest support. We are impressed by the fact that the early Brethren spent very little time with "interpretation" but made a great effort to LIVE OUT what the Bible taught. This is not to say that our Brethren forefathers were infallible. But we do believe they were sincere followers of the divine Word.

Following this, we find that scripture is given for reproof. We find this is our opening verses. If standing for doctrine is not popular, the idea of reproving someone is even less popular. As we stated the Bible teaches the need of love. But this does not do away with all the other teachings of scripture. Paul would not have been very popular in many of our modern churches. He loved Peter enough to point out to him that he was wrong. Today all kinds of heresy and false teaching are being brought into the earthly church, and we are instructed to keep our peace. Peter's action of hypocrisy was mild in comparison to what is going on today. May God give us the power to speak the truth in love.

Closely associated is that scripture is given for correction. The popular idea is that sin is not sin unless you make it sin. Many things clearly marked as sin in scripture are tolerated. Along with this we are given instruction in life style. But it is no longer popular to be different from the world. It is understandable that individuals do not desire fellow human beings to dictate their life style. But it is sad that so many who profess to be followers of Christ reject what the scriptures have to say on this subject.

This brings us to our last point, the scriptures are given for instruction in righteousness. "But that is YOUR interpretation," is heard again and again. This allows individuals to do as they please. "New light" is the theme of the day. And this is not only in the cults and "liberal" churches. Very few are following the accepted interpretations of our earthly forefathers of ALL denominations and groups that are biblically sound.

We believe that the great apostacy is "do as YOU wish." The "self cult" is to be found in the vast majority of our modern churches. It is no longer, "Jesus I give up my life and accept you as Lord," but "Jesus you are welcome to come in and share MY life." We want the world and Christ also. The Bible says this can not be. Will we follow the teaching of the Holy Scripture or the wisdom of man?

James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
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## LOVE OF JESUS

The Love of Jesus  
Is in my heart -  
He's given me words  
Now to impart  
To all Christian souls  
Who walk His way -  
Who will come to Him  
And humbly pray.

O Christian, beware,  
Lest you might stray  
From the fold of God  
And stroll away -  
If you let Satan  
Get in your life  
O do you not know  
He causes strife?

Turn your back on him -  
Pray fervently  
That God will guide you  
On life's rough sea,  
He will calm the storms,  
Bring peace to you -  
And all those dark skies  
Will turn to blue.

After you submit  
Your will to Him -  
Let Him guide your feet  
From hell-fire's brim,  
Don't let tradition  
Made by mere man  
Overcome your thinking --  
Your Bible scan.

For if you add to -  
Or take away  
From the Words God gave...  
Come judgment day  
You may hear Him say -  
"Depart from Me  
I don't know workers  
of iniquity."

- Sister Irene Stout

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

Is There A God?

J. H. Moore

Is there a God? Why ask the question? Can any one doubt the existence of a Supreme Being? On every hand we are confronted with positive evidences of his existence and power. What are we to understand by the earth, sun, moon and all the stars? What are we to understand by the planets of our solar system, that revolve about the sun with absolute regularity? Well may it be said: "The heavens declare the glory of God." The solar system alone proves the existence of an Overruling and Intelligent Mind. Everything we behold works with the utmost precision, — an accuracy unknown in any device of man. A planet, in its course around the sun, varies not a second in a thousand years. The heavenly bodies most assuredly show the handiwork of God. Indeed, can any thinking man look up at the starry heavens, behold the movements of the celestial orbs, and yet doubt the existence of a God? Then think of man, — his intelligence, his aspirations and the yearnings of his heart. The best and the noblest there is in man cries out after a being greater than himself. The idea of a God is innate with man. It is a very part of him. He can not get away from the thought. Yea, there is a God. This is the verdict of the best minds the world has ever produced. One of the wisest of men once said: "The fool hath said in his heart, There is no God." So, after all, only fools say, "There is no God."

## THE GREATEST NAME ON EARTH

Emperor Napoleon said Here I am a prisoner of Saint Helena. My soldiers and generals have forsaken me and here I am forgotten but Christ and His Christians die, for Jesus they work without pay and are willing to die martyr's death for Him. We great men endure for a little while but His name lives on for the ages and world without end. Phil. 2:10-11 says "That at the name of Jesus every knee should bow, of things in heaven, and things in earth, and things under the earth; And that every tongue should confess that Jesus Christ is Lord, to the glory of God the Father." Again in Phil. 3:8, "Yea doubtless, and I count all things but loss for the excellency of the knowledge of Christ Jesus my Lord: for whom I have suffered the loss of all things, and do count them but dung, that I may win Christ," And another scripture says, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me."

We have had companions who have gone the way of all the earth, like David said he was going the way of all the earth. He called his son Solomon and told him to keep the commandments of the Lord

and it will go well with you. We miss our loved ones who are gone, with their kind ways and good counsel. We know that monster and enemy, death, shall be done away with because our Redeemer overcame it. Death came from the disobedience of our foreparents in the Garden of Eden. The Bible says by one man's transgression death hath passed unto all men. That is the reason we have to die but there is an escape provided. If we are His Saints, we will be changed in a moment and a twinkling of the eye. We escape that enemy death. Heb. 2:14 says in the last part of the verse, "... that through death he might destroy him that had the power of death, that is, the devil;". Death will be no more in Heaven. Our loved ones lay in their graves so silent and cold just like Lazarus. Then Jesus seeing all the Jews weeping He groaned in himself. The shortest verse in the Bible is "Jesus wept."

There is a hymn I like to quote:

There is a name I love to hear;  
I love to sing its worth;  
It sounds like music in mine ear,  
The sweetest name on earth.

It tells of One whose loving heart  
Can feel my smallest woe  
Who in each sorrow bears a part  
That none can bear below.

It's hard to bear when our loved ones leave this world but we can not do anything about it. It's beyond our control so we have to go on looking for that blessed hope and glorious appearing of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. All that are in their graves shall hear the voice of the Son of God and come forth some to eternal life and some to condemnation. Let's praise His most holy name.

Paul Fridley  
R. 1, Lewisburg, OH

## UNFEIGNED LOVE

Oh for that unfeigned love that Paul speaks about in II Corinthians! How the Church needs to be revived to the point that this unfeigned love can be seen in each one. Looking over my own life, I see the need more and more for this kind of love. (Unfeigned means not pretending). It is not hard to show love for our children, and it is not hard to show love for one that we have grown to appreciate over the years, but to show UNFEIGNED LOVE for brethren and sisters that you have never seen before, or for those who did you a wrong, takes the Holy Ghost of God working in your heart to bring it about. In

order for God to use us we cannot have any spot of hatred or malice in our hearts toward any person. This includes people of the church, and also worldly people. If one comes into our fellowship and is not attired as we are, we cannot look with disdain at this person, but we must love him with an unfeigned love: one that he can see and believe to be true. More people have been won to the Lord Jesus Christ with a kind word and a loving spirit than with bitter words of judgment. Looking to our example, Jesus Christ, we see many instances of this loving spirit. When He healed the sick, it says He would look WITH COMPASSION upon the person. He wept when he observed Jerusalem, and when He heard that Lazarus was dead. He wept in the Garden of Gethsemane, realizing that His time was soon to come, that He would die for the sins of many.

The early church had such love for one another that they divided their goods and their possessions among themselves, that none would lack. Our forefathers risked their lives to come to this New World to preserve the faith of the ages that we might enjoy it today. And today, we must practice it, and more than this, it must be the Holy Ghost inspired gift that we must pass along to the world through Jesus Christ our Lord.

Lynn Hayes Miller

## NEWS ITEMS

### WINTERHAVEN, CALIFORNIA

The Winterhaven Congregation invites one and all to join us in our Lovefeast celebration on February 15, 1986. There will be all day services on Saturday and Sunday.

Sister Crisanta Smith, Cor.

### A NOTE OF THANKS

I want to say "THANKS" to each and everyone who sent me cards and gifts while I was ill. A special "thanks" for all of your prayers. We appreciated the visits from each one who visited me while recuperating at home. May God richly bless you.

Sister Flossie Beeman

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR FEBRUARY 1986

February 2 - Bishops and Deacons - I Tim. 3:1-16.

1. What are some of the qualifications for a minister or deacon?
2. What are the duties of each office?
3. Why does Paul say great is the ministry of Godliness?

February 9 - Godliness is Profitable - I Tim. 4:1-16.

1. What time is referred to as the latter days?
2. Are apostates in the church or are they on the outside?

February 16 - Providing for Family and Widows - I Tim. 5:1-16.

1. How are we to treat those who labor with us in the Church?
2. Who is to see that older people are taken care of?

February 23 - Purity - I Tim. 5:17-25.

1. What should be our conduct toward older members of the Church?
2. Explain verse 22? and who is Paul referring to?

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR FEBRUARY 1986

February 2 - Duty - Luke 9:18-26; Rom. 12:1-21.

1. What are the conditions for discipleship?
2. What is the Church compared to?

February 9 - Our Hearts - Prov. 4:20-27; Matt. 15:18-20; Luke 6:43-49; Rom. 10:1-11.

1. Why is it so important to keep the heart pure?
2. Is the saying, "if the heart is right all is right" true?

February 16 - The Open Door - John 10:7-10; John 14:1-6; Rom. 5:1-11; Heb. 10:16-25.

1. Who does Jesus say is the Door?
2. In Rom. 10:9 what are the conditions for salvation?

February 23 - Hindrances - Gal. 3:1-8; Gal. 5:7-9; Heb. 12:1-6.

1. What was the problem in the Galatian Church ?
2. To whom are we to look?

Wm. Nelsey  
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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LX

FEBRUARY 1, 1982

NO. 3

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## THIS DAY

Charlotte L. Darwin

God forgive my angered voice  
My wail when things go wrong,  
For forgetting I am — Oh so weak  
And only Thou art strong.

God forgive my restless heart  
That so often strays from home,  
And help me in Thee to find  
A place to call my own.

God forgive my faltering steps  
Amid hardships, pain and care,  
Let me remember the heavy cross  
That You were glad to bear

God forgive my hurried steps  
In life's preparatory way,  
And cause me, God, to often stop  
And help someone each day.

- Selected by Brother Harold K. Musselman

## REVERENCE

From the account of Abraham's meeting with Melchisidek (Heb. 7) we see that the greater bestowed favor on the lesser. In return the lesser owed a debt of gratitude and praise. Abraham was a man who had received many honors. But when he returned from his successful campaign against the kings, he met one greater than himself. Although he was a man used to receiving the gifts and praise of others, he, in turn, had to give to one greater than himself. This example of reverence on the part of the Father of the Faithful should encourage the faithful of today to show a proper reverence to the One who is greater than ourselves.

Reverence is the acknowledgement by man that he is not the greatest. The One who is greater deserves the awe, respect, obedience and worship of men. Reverence is more than the giving of material gifts, it is the giving of that which is hardest to give, one's unreserved obedience and respect. It is realizing that whatever talent we have is a gift from Above and must be used according to God's Will.

"Holy and reverend is his name." Psalms 111:9b. Just as one of His characteristics is holiness so is the name reverend. Men may attain a certain degree of good behavior and morals and attempt to live a holy life. But the human efforts, even at their best, fall short of the absolute holiness of God. The only holiness within men that will approach His holiness is that which He gives to men through the redemption process. As it is unseemly for men to boast of being holy so it is unseemly for men to take upon themselves the name of reverend. Like holiness it is reserved for the One who is truly deserving of men's reverence. We must honor and appreciate

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

FEBRUARY 1, 1982

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Lithographing Co., Rt. 4, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

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our fellow men but we dare not give them the reverence reserved for God. Jesus said that One, Himself, was the Master and all the others were brethren. "Brethren" implies an equal rank, therefore none could assume to be object of the others' reverence.

The only two connections between men and reverence ultimately points to God. The first is the reverence that the wife owes to her husband. Eph. 5:22-31. This whole passage concerning the marriage relationship shows an earthly picture of the relationship between Christ and the Church. As Christ willingly gave His life for His Bride, so the husband should willingly offer himself for his wife. As the Church reveres her Saviour and is obedient to Him, so the wife owes a submissive attitude to her husband. The willingness of husbands to sacrifice for their wife's benefit and the unsubmitteness of wives to their husbands' position as head has caused the breakup of many marriages, homes and families.

The second place where reverence is owed to men is similar and related to the first. Children are to revere their parents. As the offspring of God we are to be obedient to Him, so children are to revere their fathers. (Heb. 12:5-11) The father, while very fallible and capable of many mistakes, symbolically represents God within the family. He is the one charged with teaching God's Word to the family. He also has the duty of discipline. Therefore the child should see in the earnest father a picture of God's mercy and severity. Again many of the failures within the home today can be blamed on the fathers who do not fulfill their God given responsibility and upon children who do not give proper respect to the parent.

Our reverence for God is shown not only by our deeds but also by our language. God should be spoken of in terms that show reverence. While He is our Friend, He should not be spoken of as a, "Good Buddy", "The Man in the Sky" or other popular slang designations. Not only should we be careful about how we speak about Him, we should be careful how we speak to Him. Prayer is an acknowledgement of our reverence for Him. Prayer is our praise of the One who is Above us yet who provides for us in mercy. Prayer also is petition which is directed to the One who is able through greater power to meet our needs. Since our prayers are our acknowledgement of Him we should use the terms that our language provides to express ourselves. We should not use terms of familiarity but words of reverence. The English language has set aside words like "Thee" and "Thou" and "Thine" to be used when approaching God. Perhaps, it is a result of the secularization of the schools that has caused these terms of deference to be pushing into the background. There is a danger that if we use familiar terms when speaking to God that we will eventually grow to hold Him in

contempt as we oft times do with familiar things.

Our duty as God's creatures and especially as His children is to reverence Him. If we reverence Him we will exhibit a faithful witness in this world. Reverence Him.

## **WHAT SHOULD BE THE CHRISTIAN'S ATTITUDE TOWARDS WAR?**

According to General George C. Marshall's estimates of soldiers killed in World War II.

Soviet Union lost 7,500,000.

Germany lost 2,850,000.

Japan lost 1,500,000.

British Commonwealth lost 450,000.

United Kingdom lost 305,770.

Italy lost 300,000.

China lost 2,200,000.

France lost 200,000.

United States lost 295,904.

Add to these the civilians killed throughout the world.

Add to these those who suffered various wounds.

Add to this the food and raw materials consumed or destroyed.

Add to this the homes and property destroyed.

Add to these the anguish and hardships endured.

What part would Christ have in such a conflagration?

Brother Howard J. Surbey  
Littlestown, Pennsylvania 17340

## **NEWS ITEM**

### **1982 GENERAL CONFERENCE**

1982 General Conference will be held at the Ohio Missionary Conference Grounds, Ludlow Falls, Ohio on June 5 - 9.

Send your reservations to either of the following:

Paul Stump	Wayne Pike	Tom St. John
10340 Diamond Mill	Box 149	Rt. #1, Box 51
Union, Ohio 45322	West Unity, O. 43570	Alvordton, Ohio 43501

Further information will be given later.

## THE VEIL

There is only a veil between us and Heaven! A veil is the thinnest and frailest of all conceivable partitions. It is but a fine tissue, a delicate fabric of embroidery. It waves in the wind; the touch of a child may stir it and accident may rend it; the silent action of time will moulder it away. The veil that conceals Heaven is only our embodied existence; and though "fearfully and wonderfully made," it is only wrought out of our frail mortality. So slight is it that the puncture of a thorn, the touch of an insect's sting, the breath of an infected atmosphere, may make it shake and fall. In a bound, in a moment, in the twinkling of an eye, in the throb of a pulse, in the flash of a thought, we may start into disembodied spirits.



## MADE HIS OWN CHAIN

A cruel ruler once ordered a subject to make an iron chain, one link each day. When it was finished, the poor wretch was bound with it, and thrown into a dungeon. Thus day by day do people, in obedience to the command of their Master, Satan, forge the links of a chain of evil deeds that shall end in their eternal imprisonment.

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## NOTICE CONCERNING SUBSCRIPTIONS

Newlywed couples may receive a year's subscription free if a request is forwarded to the editor with their name and full address.

To those who anticipate moving — please report a change of address promptly to the editor to prevent the papers being miscarried.

It will also be appreciated if those who send in subscriptions will give the complete addresses and indicate whether they are new or renewal subscriptions.

It will be of help to the editor if subscriptions are always sent in the same name.

Is your subscription renewed?

— Editor

## DIRECTORY OF INFORMATION

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## EDITORIAL POLICY

That it be the policy of the Bible Monitor to exclude controversial material and material opposing, questioning or reflecting on decisions or positions of the Church as determined by the General Conference or derogatory thereto. Also all other material not of proper standard or spiritual value for a church paper.

That supervision over the matter to be published in the Bible Monitor be exercised by the Publication Board.

## PRINTED MATERIAL

The following Dunkard Brethren publications are available to anyone, from the Boards listed:

### GENERAL MISSION BOARD

The following tracts are free:  
 Why Triune Baptism  
 Plain Dressing  
 Which is the Right Church?  
 The Service of Feet Washing as a Religious Rite  
 What Shall I do with the Commandments of Jesus?  
 Daily Reminder  
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 The Doctrine of the Prayer Veil  
 The Brethren's Card  
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### PUBLICATION BOARD

Bible Monitor (semi-monthly)  
 \$2.00 per year in advance.  
 Brethren Hymnal (heavy back)  
 \$5.50 ea. \$62.50 doz.  
 Church Manual \$.30  
 The Bible Outline \$.45; \$5.10 doz.  
 The Old Testament History  
 \$.55; \$6.00 doz.  
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No charge for the following:

Polity Booklet  
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 Baptismal Certificate Blanks  
 Church Letter Blanks  
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Minutes of General Conference in One Volume  
 \$4.25 ea. plus \$.35 postage each.

## SUGGESTIONS TO CONTRIBUTORS

We are submitting several suggestions as a help to contributors in preparing material for the Bible Monitor. These suggestions will also make the work easier for both the editor and the printer.

1. Become familiar with the Editorial Policy and do not use subjects or statements which conflict with this plan of the Bible Monitor.
2. Place your name and address at the close of the article. We deem it more appropriate to sign as Brother or Sister.
3. Do not make sentences too long. A number of short sentences are better than a long involved sentence which is difficult to punctuate, and in which the real meaning of the writer's thought may be lost.
4. It will be appreciated if you gather a particular thought or thoughts and their proving Scripture quotations, into paragraphs and set these apart from the rest of the article, by setting in the first line of each paragraph about the space of three letters.
5. Do not crowd your words or punctuation marks close together. Do not use slang or abbreviated words as - "thot" for thought, "2" for two, "&" for and, etc.
6. Write or typewrite on one side of the paper only. Double spacing of lines is much preferred. Do not make the lines the full width of the sheet, leave at least one inch margin on each side of the sheet.
7. Use direct quotations for the Scripture references, please copy the wording and the punctuation just as it appears in the King James Version of the Bible. Given thus: book, chapter and verse, "Jesus wept." John 11:35.
8. Frequent mistakes we find: beleive for believe; recieve for receive; judgement for judgment; ore for or; & for and.

9. In submitting selected material, give the name of the author and the publication in which it appeared, if known, and add "selected by" and your name.

10. To be certain that an item is in a certain issue, your Editor should have this item at least 30 days prior to the date of the issue.

11. The Publication Board has decided that News Items should contain material of general interest to the Brotherhood. Therefore items of only local interest should not be included in News Items, such as Local Sunday School officers, District meeting delegates, minor local church property improvements and items "In Memoriam."

12. Read these and then write.

## **FIXED COMMUNION DATES**

Third Sat. March - Quinter, Kansas  
 First Sat. April - Dallas Center, Iowa  
 Fourth Sat. April - Pleasant Home, Ca.  
 Last Sat. April - Grandview, Missouri  
 Last Sun. April - Bethel, Pa.  
 First Sun. May - Waynesboro, Pa.  
 Third Sat. May - Dayton, Virginia  
 Third Sat. May - West Fulton, Ohio  
 Sat. before Third Sun. May - Lititz, Pa.  
 Fourth Sun. May - Shrewsbury, Pa.  
 Sat. before First Sun. Aug. - Broadwater Chapel, Maryland  
 Sat. before Fourth Sun. Aug. - Shallow Falls, Maryland  
 Labor Day Weekend - South Fulton, Ill.

First Sun. Oct. - Walnut Grove, Md.  
 Second Sun. Oct. - Waynesboro, Pa.  
 Third Sat. Oct. - Dayton, Virginia  
 Sat. before Third Sun. Oct. - Lititz, Pa.  
 Fourth Sat. Oct. - Englewood, Ohio  
 Last Sun. Oct. - Bethel, Pa.  
 First Sat. Nov. - Newberg, Oregon  
 First Sun. Nov. - Shrewsbury, Pa.  
 Second Sat. Nov. - Pleasant Home, Ca.

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## GOSSIP, BOTH VERBAL AND BY MAIL

A. Elders, other officials and all others are admonished that being busybodies in other men's matters, is contrary to the Scripture and it should not be indulged in, as it causes complaint and interference with the spiritual life and work of those concerned. This applies especially where there may be trouble in the church, both to local members and those elsewhere, talking and writing about such matters.

B. When advice is sought of an official in any church matter he (the official) should be exceedingly careful in giving advice, so as not to interfere in any way with proper care of difficulties, by officials whose business they are. Elders and all others should, in seeking advice, begin at home when at all possible and be careful to proceed regularly and in brotherly love.

C. In correspondence, care should be exercised not to make statements that may be construed as derogatory to any member. If such things are done, full responsibility must be understood as being assumed by the writer.

D. Caucusing, that is, the taking over and planning by groups, what to do or how to move in any particular matter is unprofitable, causative of distress and trouble and should not be indulged in by officials or anyone else.

E. Talking or circulating of what was done in council, either to members who were not present or to outsiders, is irregular and unChristian and should not be indulged in.

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## LOCATION OF CHURCH HOUSES

### BETHEL, PENNSYLVANIA

Frystown House, located in Frystown, in northwestern Berks Co., one mile south of Route 78 and one mile west of Route 501.

Milbach House, located halfway between Kleinfeltersville and Newmans-town, in Lebanon Co. or halfway between Schafferstown and Womeisdorf, Pennsylvania.

### BROADWATER CHAPEL, MD.

From Cumberland, Maryland, travel west on National Freeway #48, 20 miles to Lower New Germany Road Exit. Turn left or south under freeway three-tenths mile, turn right on Lower New Germany Road 3.8 miles, left on Westernport Road 3.8 miles, right on Savage Road 3.9 miles to church on left.

From Morgantown, W. Va. area, travel east on National Freeway #48 to Lower New Germany Road Exit. Turn right three-tenths mile, turn right on Lower New Germany Road and follow above directions.

Traveling east or west on U.S. Route #50 take U.S. Rt. #220 north, take Maryland Rt. #135 at McCoole (just north of Keyser, W. Va.) seven miles to Bloomington, Maryland. Turn right on Savage River Road, 12½ miles to church on right.

### CLEARVILLE, PA.

Wards Church, located 14 miles southwest of Everett, Pa., all improved roads. From Everett take Rt. 26 to Clearville, Pa. At Clearville straight ahead South, leaving Rt. 26, which turns right, one and one-half miles, then turn right at fork. Ward's Church is five miles on the left.

### DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

Dallas Center is located on Rt. 44, twenty-four miles northwest of Des Moines. Turn south off of Rt. 44 on to Percival Ave. (first street west of R.R. tracks); the church is located 3 blocks south on the southeast corner of Percival and Ash Streets.

### DAYTON, VIRGINIA

Turn west from Interstate 81 at Harrisonburg Exit #63. Go to second stop light, Rt. 42, turn left to Dayton, (3 miles) right on Rt. 257, two blocks.

### ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

Twelve miles north of Dayton, Rt. 440 and Rt. 48 cross at the center of Englewood. Church house is located on the right of Rt. 48, one block north of this junction.

### GOSHEN, INDIANA

Located on Green Road, one block north of County No. 130. Take U.S. 33 or Indiana #15 to Goshen, turn west at Police booth. Four blocks beyond bridge, turn right on North Indiana Ave., one block turn left on W. Clinton St. One mile to Green Rd., right one block and church is located on east side of road.

### GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Grandview Church is located south of Grandview. Take the west access road of 71 Highway 1½ miles south to 139th St., turn west, go to the second street and turn south one block.

### LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

Coming from the South on Route 501, turn right at the fourth stoplight in Lititz, when coming from the North turn left at the first stoplight, which is East Lincoln St. Go to first crossroad, turn right, go to second crossroad, turn right to brick church on the right.

### MECHANICSBURG, PA.

#### CUMBERLAND CO.

Located between Routes 15 and 11. The town is bisected by Rt. 114 into

East and West, and by Rt. 641 into North and South. The church is located on West Keller St., or corner of Keller and Washington St., four blocks west of Market St. or Route 114. Leaving the Pennsylvania Turnpike at the Carlisle interchange, Rt. 11 will lead east to Rt. 114. Leaving the Turnpike at Gettysburg interchange, Rt. 16 will lead west to Rt. 114.

#### McCLAVE, COLORADO

The Cloverleaf church is located one mile north of U.S. Highway #50, four miles west of McClave junction, or two miles east of Hasty, Colo., on U.S. #50 and then north one mile.

#### MOUNTAINDALE, MD.

Seven miles north of Frederick, in the little town of Mountaintdale, Md., from east go through town to west on road from Lewistown to Yellow Springs, two miles from Lewistown and three miles from Yellow Springs. If traveling U.S. 15, this road crosses #15, half mile west of Lewistown and six miles south of Thurmont.

#### PLEASANT HOME, CA.

The Pleasant Home Church is located at 3960 Sharon Ave., Modesto, California. The Church's telephone number is 209-524-8634.

**Directions:** From the South on Highway 99 take the Briggsmore Exit to the right and stay on Briggsmore Avenue to Claus Road (approximately six miles), turn left on Claus, one fourth mile to Sharon Avenue, left on Sharon Avenue. Church is on the left. Coming from the North on Highway 99 take the Briggsmore Exit, turn left and stay on Briggsmore and follow above directions.

#### PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

Located in Williams County, four miles west of West Unity, forty rods north of Rt. 20 alternate. Two miles east of junction of Ohio Route 15 and U.S. Route 20 alternate.

#### PLEVNA, INDIANA

Route 18 passes east and west through Converse. In Converse, turn south at stoplight and go three miles. Turn right on blacktop road and go five miles west to Plevna. Or go west of Converse on Rt. 18 for five miles, turn left and go three miles south. The Church is on west side of street near the square of Plevna.

#### NEWBERG, OREGON

Highway 99W enters Newberg in east-west direction. Those entering from the east on First St., go to third stoplight, turn right on North Main. Go four blocks to the church at corner of N. Main and Franklin Sts. Entering from the west, turn left at first stop light onto N. Main and go four blocks to the corner of Main and Franklin Sts.

#### ORION, OHIO

Located in northeastern Ohio, on Orion Road, one fourth mile west of State Rt. 8 at a point six miles north of Canton or one and one-half miles north of North Canton and 17 miles south of Akron.

#### QUINTER, KANSAS

Located at the corner of Eighth Street and Main Street.

#### S. FULTON, ILLINOIS

Astoria, Ill., is located on Rt. 24, coming from east or west, turn south at the bank corner marked by the big clock. Two miles south and on the right at top of hill.

#### WAYNESBORO, PA.

Church is located in west side of town, on corner of Ridge and Third Streets. Turn south of Route 16 on Fairview Ave., go two blocks and turn left on Third Street, church house is one block.

#### SHREWSBURY, PA.

Fourteen miles south of York on Rt. 111, at the north end of the town of Shrewsbury.

#### SHALLOW FALLS, MD.

Traveling U.S. Rt. 50, turn north at Red house, half way between Clarksburg and Winchester, follow Rt. 219 to Oakland, there turn left on county road 20. The church is on Rt. 20, about nine miles north of Oakland. Traveling U.S. Rt. 40, turn south onto Rt. 219, at Keyser Ridge, follow Rt. 219 about four miles past Deep Great Lake, turn right on county road 20 at a store. The church is one and one-half miles Swallow Falls Park.

#### WALNUT GROVE, MD.

About midway between Frederick, Md. and Hanover, Pa. One-fourth mile east of Rt. 194, at an intersection three miles north of Taneytown, Md.

#### W. FULTON, OHIO

Near Wauseon, Ohio, located on U.S. Rt. 20 alternate, three and one-

half miles west of junction of Ohio Rt. 108 and U.S. Rt. 20 alternate.  
WINTERHAVEN, CA.  
Located in Cherry Valley. Go north

of Beaumont on Beaumont Ave., go right on Brookside (marked with a Highland Springs sign) to Jonathan, left to Lincoln and right to the church.

## MISSIONS

CLEARVILLE, PA. - In South Central Pennsylvania, about half-way between Everett on Rt. 30 and Piney Grove on Rt. 40. About six miles south of Clearville, Pa., along hard road a little east of Rt. 26. Services second, fourth and fifth Sundays, 10:00 a.m.

TORREON NAVAJO MISSION  
Located southwest of Cuba, New Mexico, 23 miles. Turn on State Highway 197 in Cuba. Follow Rt. 197 for 19 miles when you will take a paved road to the left. A mission sign

marks this junction. Proceed 3 miles to the mission. Present personnel includes David and Mildred Skiles and family; Leonard and Ronda Wertz and family; Wayne and Vicki Burgess and family; Sarah Wilson; Mary Alice Skiles; Ruthie Flory; Paul Skiles and Dennis Meyers. Visitors would be wise to notify the Mission in advance. Address: R. 2 Box 8, Cuba, New Mexico 87013; Telephone - 505-842-5555, unit 3134. Please contact for further information.

## UNFAITHFUL MINISTER REBUKED

A dying nobleman once sent for the clergyman on whose ministry he had attended, and said to him, "Do you not know that my life has been licentious? Yet you never warned me of my danger!" "Yes, my lord," was the answer, "your manner of living was not unknown to me; but your kindness, and my fear of offending you, deterred me from reproving you." "How cruel! How wicked!" said the dying man. "You have neglected to warn and instruct me; now my soul will be lost."



## HEEDLESS RULER

A conspiracy was formed against the life of a ruler. A friend, hearing of it, sent a packet containing the remark: "Read it immediately for it contains serious matter." The doomed man was then at a feast and smilingly replied: "Serious affairs tomorrow," and putting the packet aside, continued his merriment. That night he was murdered.

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(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

FEBRUARY 15, 1986

NO. 4

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"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

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OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

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OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

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## COME, LET US SEARCH OUR WAYS AND SEE

Come, let us search our ways and see,  
Have they been just and right?  
Is the great rule of equity  
Our practice and delight?

What we would have our neighbor do,  
Have we still done the same,  
From others ne'er withheld the due  
Which we from others claim?

Do we, in all we sell or buy,  
Integrity maintain?  
And knowing God is always nigh,  
Renounce unrighteous gain?

Then may we raise our modest prayer  
To God, the just and kind;  
May humbly cast on him our care,  
And hope his grace to find.

- I. Watts

**"THE TIME IS NOT COME"**

Haggai 1:3

Procrastination is a common habit among people. It is easier to put off doing something. When finally the task is done, there is a feeling that it should have been done sooner. Putting off tasks is not necessarily laziness but may bespeak fear of the unknown. There may be a fear of leaving what is comfortable in our lives to accomplish what should be done although it requires an extra effort.

People in Haggai's day were no different than people today. They put off doing what should have been done. They chose to do the lesser thing rather than the best. People today make the same unwise decisions made throughout history.

The people who returned from the Babylonian captivity faced many dangers and questions in getting resettled in their land. One of the first things they did was rebuild the foundation of the Temple. While it was not as grand as the former Temple, it was a beginning in re-establishing the worship of God. Although they made this good start they soon became more interested in their own affairs than God's. They lived in physically and economically challenging times. It was difficult for them to re-establish their lives in the nearly destroyed city and nearby towns. As they struggled to make a living and bring the land back into productiveness they began to think less of rebuilding God's House upon that foundation they had erected.

God sent Haggai to plead with the leaders and the people. They had become more interested in their own homes than in God's. They had struggled. Now they were beginning to enjoy some fruits of their struggle. They had comfortable homes which were finished nicely. But the House of God remained unfinished.

If they did not build upon that foundation, it would begin to

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**THE BIBLE MONITOR****FEBRUARY 15, 1986**

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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crumble. A foundation left to the elements without a building upon it will soon begin to lose its strength and eventually to crumble away. Unused Spiritual foundations may also crumble from disuse and inattention. So it is important to build upon the sure foundation. The foundational teachings of the Bible must be built upon by holy living and further study of God's Word.

The foundation of the new temple was setting there unused. They were too busy with their own affairs to see their former effort would be for nought if not further used. Therefore they were beginning to suffer for their neglect. They planted much seed but received a light harvest. They had eaten well but were still hungry. They drank but were still thirsty. They put on clothes but could not keep warm. They labored to earn wages that were soon gone as if they had been put in a holey pocket. They worked at being prosperous but they weren't prosperous because they had failed to place God's House as a priority before their material prosperity.

God could not bless material desires which were to be consumed upon themselves. All they could think about was how to get ahead financially. If they had had greater regard for God's demands upon their lives they would have had greater prosperity both Spiritually and materially. Could this be the reason there are so many Christians who can barely scrape by in this world? Are they too interested in their material well-being to consider God's prior claim upon them? Many Christians have pursued the "good life" until they are debt ridden and nearly bankrupt. They have made unwise decisions. Their most unwise decision was to put their desires ahead of God's.

The leaders whom Haggai approached proved themselves to be real leaders. They recognized the truth of his message. They and the people were willing to listen to Haggai unlike their ancestors who refused to listen to Isaiah, Jeremiah and the other prophets who warned them of the Babylonian Captivity. These people had been through that judgment so they were willing to listen when God spoke to them through His prophet. They not only listened, they were willing to work. It was not long until they returned to the work needing to be done in the Lord's House. Any Christian may linger or falter in his duty. But if wise, when warned, he will make the necessary corrections.

There should be no procrastination in our service for God. We must be found in the House of God at all of her appointed services and we must be found daily living for Him. We must make the right decision in choosing our priorities. We cannot pursue our own course and expect God's blessings. We must accept the foundation that is laid for us in His Word then build upon it.

Might Haggai's warning to his people serve as a warning to us in the choices in our lives everyday.

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### "Contentment"

Contentment is one of the most distinguishing traits of a "real" Christian because a godly person has his heart focused on God rather than on possessions or power or other things of this world. The inner resource will furnish riches far beyond those of an earthly nature.

"Content" or "contentment" is usually translated as "sufficiency." The I Tim. 6:6 and II Cor. 12:9 scriptures use the same Greek word.

A content person experiences the sufficiency of God's provision for his needs and the sufficiency of God's grace for his circumstances. He understands that God will indeed meet all his material needs and that he will work in and through all circumstances of his life. The godly person has already found what the greedy and envious or discontented person is always searching for but never finds. He has satisfaction and rest in his soul.

The idea of contentment in the Bible is usually associated with our possessions or money, but there are other areas of life in which we need to be content. After possessions, possibly the most common need is to learn contentment with our place in society or in the Body of Christ. We must also practice it in physical limitations, afflictions, deprivation, unpleasant living situations, trials and persecutions. These circumstances frequently cause the natural man to murmur and complain and to question the goodness of God.

Remember, the first temptation in the history of mankind was the temptation to be discontent. God's provision for Adam and Eve was far beyond what they needed. He withheld only ONE thing from them to test their obedience... the tree used by Satan for the first sin. Satan used that one tree to tempt Eve and sow seeds of discontent in her heart. He questioned the goodness of God to Eve, and that is exactly what discontentment is... questioning the goodness of God. Satan tried the same strategy on Jesus in the wilderness and we can well take note that we will be tempted in the same ways.

One of the strongest exhortations in the Word is to be content with our possessions. This helps us to guard against stealing, adultery and even murder. The lessons of Achan's covetousness and Gehazi's sin illustrates God's judgment on lack of contentment. The spiritual danger of loving the things of this world is even greater than the judgment of a dreaded disease like AIDS or an untimely death. John teaches us clearly that if anyone loves the world, the love of the Father is not in him. This person is

## NOT a Christian?

To gain contentment you will need much prayer, memorizing and meditating on God's Word. You will need a renewing of your mind. Ultimately, you will need the fervent work of the Holy Spirit, who alone can rework your attitudes and change your heart.

How can you gain contentment? 1. LEARN TO FOCUS ON THE TRUE VALUES OF LIFE. Accept God's values and moral principles foremost in your life. 2. SERVE OTHERS. Avoid selfish ambition and reach out to touch other lives. 3. REMEMBER THAT ALL WE HAVE COMES FROM GOD. Contentment is understanding that it is God who gives us ability, possessions, blessings. 4. UNDERSTAND THAT THERE WILL BE DIFFERENT AMOUNTS OF WEALTH AND POSSESSIONS ACCORDING TO GOD'S SOVEREIGN WILL. Can we question God's will? 5. WITH THE PRIVILEGE OF POSSESSION COMES RESPONSIBILITY. (Luke 12:48)

Relative to position in the church... Paul wanted Christians at Rome to recognize that God has placed each of us in the body of Christ as it pleases Him. Our duty is not to decide what we want to be or to do, but to discover on the basis of our capabilities and gifts what God wants us to do and to be. Contentment, here, lies not in being first, but in being FAITHFUL to fulfill the function which God has called us to be in within the Body. Remember, positions in the church are given by the sovereign grace of God... "according to our differing gifts." YOU ARE NOT WHERE YOU ARE BY CHANCE. Also, you do not DESERVE to be where you are if you are in a leadership position. It is by God's grace. Finally, remember that every single true Christian is important. This understanding will bring about contentment in your life.

Just as God has created different responsibilities in the church, so it is true in the "work-a-day world." Some are created to be farmers, some tradesmen, salesmen, bus drivers and so forth. We can be content in our work as God gives us grace. Does this mean we will never aspire to a more challenging or responsible job? No! If you don't violate God's will in moving up, God will bless that promotion. In fact, you have the Christian responsibility to pursue excellence in your work. Be faithful... but understand that that is not a guarantee of promotion. It will please God and that is ultimately most important.

Accept that we live daily by God's unmerited favor, through Christ, and that we can respond to any situation by His divine care for us.

## THE BLESSINGS OF GOD

Are we receiving the blessings of God in this life? We need to inherit the blessings of eternity. Christ brought for us a saving Gospel whereby we can be saved. When He was here on earth He taught by example and precept. Have we made Him our pattern?

The Christian life is far above the ungodly and the sinner. Much is implied in becoming the children of God. We should not be tossed to and fro by every wind of doctrine but stand steadfast on the solid rock Jesus Christ. Be steadfast, unmovable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, so much so that we know our labor is not in vain.

"Blessed are the pure in heart for they shall see God. Blessed are the peacemakers for they shall be called the children of God." No blessing is recorded for the busy bodies and those who authorize strife.

"Blessed are they that mourn for they shall be comforted." Our trials and temptations here will only make us richer there if we endure faithful to the end. "Blessed are those that hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be filled. Blessed are the merciful for they shall obtain mercy. Blessed are those that are persecuted for righteousness sake for theirs is the kingdom of heaven." There is no reward for placing unjust hardships upon others "For the wages of sin is death" or destruction. "Blessed are ye when they shall revile against you and say all manner of evil against you for great is your reward in heaven for so persecuted they the prophets that were before you." We can think of many who suffered hardships in this life. Their trials are over. Our hope is to meet them on the peaceful shore.

"Blessed is the man that walketh not in the council of the ungodly... nor siteth in the seat of the scornful but his delight is in the law of the Lord and in his law doth he meditate day and night." Then he can count his blessings, count them over and over but can never count them all. So many are the rich blessings of God.

We need to receive the rich blessings of God's Word in this life to be qualified for the blessings of eternity. There is nothing in this life which can be compared to the riches of eternity. For those who become stumbling blocks to others there is no blessed reward.

Blessed are they that do his commandments for they shall have a right to the tree of life and shall enter in through the gates into the eternal city where the walls are of jasper and the streets paved with pure gold, where is eternal joy, peace and happiness.

Brother J. F. Marks  
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Plant City, FL 33566

## "GO AND SIN NO MORE"

This was spoken to the woman who was brought by the scribes and Pharisees to Jesus to see what He would do in this case. "... and (Jesus) said unto them, He that is without sin among you, let him first cast a stone at her. And again he stooped down, and wrote on the ground. And when they heard it, being convicted by their own conscience, went out one by one, beginning at the eldest, even to the last:... Jesus said unto her, Neither do I condemn thee: go, and sin no more." John 8:7-11.

We who have confessed before God and many witnesses that Jesus is the Son of God and willingly renounce Satan with all his pernicious ways, and all the sinful pleasures of this world, also promised to live faithful unto death. Heb. 10:26 says, "For if we sin willfully after that we have received the knowledge of the truth, there remaineth no more sacrifice for sins." So those who do these things are in the hands of God. It is possible they may not be fully converted.

The Bible tells about Peter. Jesus said unto him, when thou art converted then strengthen thy brethren. Again it says, Eph. 5:3, "But fornication, and all uncleanness, or covetousness, let it not be once named among you, as becometh Saints." II Tim. 2:19b, "And, let every one that nameth the name of Christ depart from iniquity."

In the Old Testament, it is written about Joseph that he spoke to the woman who tempted him. He said how can I do this great evil and sin against God. The woman's side points to where Tamar said to Ammon, David's son "don't be a fool in Israel" but he would not take her council. We should try to please Christ and hold our reputation up and our families and our Church. Also that our light shines bright to the world. Heb. 13:4 says, "Marriage is honourable in all, and the bed undefiled: but whoremongers and adulters God will judge." It appears that young ones are not only ones at fault but the older ones as well. In the Bible this sin is one of the worse since man and woman were made. God's house is a house of order and everything should be done decently and in order. Our bodies are the temple of God so let's be careful in this matter as this is a very embarrassing thing to confess to, if we do these things, so let's think before we act, for actions speak louder than words.

Paul Fridley  
RD #1, Lewisburg, OH

## SINGING, WONDERFUL WORDS OF PRAISE

The Bible exhorts us to praise the Lord in song and hymns. James 5:13; Colossians 3:16; Ephesians 5:19; Acts 16:25. There are many hymns for many occasions, hymns of praise, hymns of repentance, hymns of salvation stained and blotted with the blood of Calvary, hymns of judgment of fire and indignation, hymns of eternal bliss and hymns of eternal destruction.

Singing is more impressive than reading — it requires thought in the mind, action in the muscles, lips and tongue, music and meaning to the ears, vibrations to the emotions, heart and spirit. How important it is to sing and listen to meaningful and Godly hymns that impress and encourage us to live godly lives. We should sing such songs with a zest and a zeal, really mean to carry out the real meaning of the songs in our lives. It lifts us up on a higher spiritual plane, is pleasing to God (He is greatly to be praised), is an inspiration to the sinner, is an encouragement to the saints, gives us spiritual strength, physical blessing, inspiration, and peace. Singing and prayer are pleasing to God and He answers with His blessings. Many times when driving in adverse circumstances of poor visibility I have sung hymns of praise in faith and soon the weather conditions would clear that I could see ahead. On one occasion Christ told the people if the people did not praise Him that the stones would cry out.

People have failed God in Holy Praise. That praise has become destructive, modern music for the pride and praise of men that leads onto the broad way that is not pleasing to our Lord. They have removed regeneration, repentance, the shed blood and judgment of Christ from the modern hymnals, and what is left? It is a privilege to praise God and make a joyful animate praise to His Holy Name in song. It sounds nice to be able to carry the right tune, but it is not a must, we can praise Him even though the tune is off-beat. Parents should praise Him in song and life, and teach their children to praise Him also — not just sit. Sing out! Rejoice and receive the blessing. Glory Halleluiah! Praise His Name! Paul and Silas prayed and sang hymns of praise at midnight loud and clear so the inmates of the prison heard and the doors and gates of the prison flew open. What would or will they do for us? How about our faith and our song?

I have lately enjoyed looking at some old and now rare hymn books that have beautiful hymns which touched my soul. I will try to share them with the Bible Monitor readers. Hope you enjoy them.

### God Give Us Homes

God give us homes!

Homes where the Bible is honored and taught;  
Homes with the Spirit of Christ in their thought;  
Homes that a likeness to Heaven have caught.

God give us homes!

God give us homes!

Homes with the father in priest-like employ;  
Homes that are bright with a far reaching joy;  
Homes where no world-stain shall come to annoy.

God give us homes!

God give us homes!

Where the mother is queen-like in love;  
Ruled in the fear of the Saviour above;  
Homes that to youth most inspiring shall prove;

God give us homes!

God give us homes!

Homes where children to brighten the hours;  
Budding and blooming like beautiful flowers;  
Places of sunshine, sweet sanctified bow'rs.

God give us homes!

God give us homes!

Lights in a world that is flooded with night;  
Daybeams to banish sin's chill and its blight;  
Pledge of a morning when wrong turns to light.

God give us homes!

Chorus:

Home, home, sweet, sweet home,  
A likeness to Heaven, God give us such Homes.

- To be continued  
Sister Ruth Snyder



### THREE THINGS THAT ARE BETTER

BETTER is little with the fear of the Lord than great treasure and trouble therewith. Proverbs 15:16.

It is BETTER to trust in the Lord than to put confidence in man. Psalms 118:8.

To obey is BETTER than sacrifice. I Samuel 15:22.

## JUST ME

### Part 1

#### I Corinthians 7

"It's just me, Lord. I know I don't have so much to offer, being alone, but there's no one to share my life for now. It doesn't seem right this way, like something important is missing. Even so, I want to be what I should be, to be the best I can be. I want my life to count for Jesus. I want to be a whole person, not an insignificant non-person. Being married and having a family is fine, but for now, Lord, ... it's just me."

Does this remind you of someone you know, or, is it you? Whether or not you have considered the matter, not everyone is married, nor can they be. There are several reasons for this, one being that women outnumber men. Some people choose not to marry, some just haven't found the right one, while others are widowed or divorced. These aren't voluntary positions, except for those who choose not to marry. Neither is it an ideal situation to be "just me" (unmarried) anymore than being married is always ideal.

The ideal marriage relationship means you now have someone special to share with in serving the Lord, in good times and bad. Yet few relationships measure up to the God-ordained plan. Many marrieds are more alone than singles, more distressed, more burdened — why? Simply because of the many added responsibilities and failure of the spouse to carry his or her share of the load. Our needs can't be totally met by another person — we must depend on God — but some do not put into a marriage even what is possible. Then the marriage relationship becomes only a burden instead of a joy it should be.

One person said concerning another, "If she would get married, it would solve all her problems." On the contrary, it might just create a whole new set of problems. Getting married isn't an escape route; it's a responsibility. It is not a problem-solver, a cure-all or a preventive. I Cor. 7:28 says "But and if thou marry, thou hast not sinned; ... Nevertheless such shall have trouble in the flesh." It is not reality to think marriage will solve everything.

Do you still think it's always better to be married? The norm has been that once you are an adult, you are expected to marry and have children. If you don't, there's something wrong with you. But, is there? The fact is God's Word does not support that reasoning. The second fact is God can provide a fulfilled life regardless of your marital status. There is nothing wrong with

being single and everything about it can be right, especially if that is God's plan for your life. The third fact is it is far better to be single, to wait for the right one, than to get in a hurry and marry just for the sake of being married. The frustrations you experience as a single is as nothing compared to the grief of one who is unhappily married.

It is fine to want a home of your own, but there's one thing you should want more. It is God's will for your life. The Apostle Paul wrote, "For I would that all men were even as myself. But every man hath his proper gift of God, one after this manner, and another after that. I say therefore to the unmarried and widows, It is good for them if they abide even as I... And unto the married... (in my words) stay that way!" (I Cor. 7:7-13) Whatever your status, whatever your responsibility, God's will should come first. If you have a choice to make, whether to stay single or marry, consider God's will for you personally, then do as He directs.

Some say, "Singles have it made! They should enjoy it while they can!" This is true to a point, but whether you are single or married, you'll have problems. Being "just me" does have some advantages, such as more time to serve the Lord in special ways and being free to come and go. But being single doesn't mean freedom from responsibility. It simply means there will be different ones, and the priorities will differ also. A single needs to use his or her talents just as much as anyone else. While a single does enjoy a special freedom, that freedom is not an excuse to be idle or irresponsible.

- To be continued  
Sister Eileen Broadwater

## **THE SWORD THAT DIVIDES**

Hebrews 4:12 "For the word of God is quick, and powerful, and sharper than any two edged sword, piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit, and of the joints and marrow, and is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart."

Although the New Testament was, of course, not in existence when the writer of Hebrews penned these words, we believe that the Holy Spirit had this in mind especially when it was recorded. For we know that the Bible is the written word of God. (It does not CONTAIN the word of God as the liberals teach.) But John 1:1 tells us that Jesus Christ is also the Word. We do not believe you can separate the written word from the living Word. The Old Testament was given as the schoolmaster. But Galatians 3:25 tells us, "But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster." This does not mean that the Old Testament is not truth but it does mean that we are not to use it for doctrine.

It is no longer popular to think of the Bible as a sword. Yet Ephesians 6:17 tells us, "And take the helmet of salvation, and the sword of the Spirit, which is the word of God." Our study verse tells us that it is "sharper than any (earthly) two edged sword." There are those who would like to dull the sword. They come up with such sayings as "It does not matter what you believe, just so you believe," and "Doctrine divides but the Spirit unites." Another popular one is, "We can have unity in diversity." We heard an individual say one time, "Your Holy Spirit does not always say the same thing as my Holy Spirit." (This may not be a direct quote.) We do not believe the individual meant exactly what he said, but it does raise an interesting question. Does the Holy Spirit lead into several different truths or into ALL truth? John 16:13 tells us, "Howbeit when he, the Spirit of truth, is come, he will guide you into all truth...." We acknowledge that this was spoken especially to the apostles, but we believe it has something to say about the work of the Holy Spirit in our lives.

There are other individuals who would like to shorten the sword. Our study verse tells us the word of God is "piercing even to the dividing asunder of soul and spirit." We believe this speaks of spiritual things. It is very important that we accept the cardinal doctrines of Holy Scripture. There are not many ways to Heaven as some would have you believe. The only way to Heaven is through the shed blood of Jesus Christ. It is not enough merely to use the NAME of Jesus Christ. A false teacher by the name of Maharaj Charan Singh Ji quotes Christ and His sayings from Holy Scripture but twists them to prove "inner light" and reincarnation in the place of a salvation experience. He then states, "There may be a difference in our interpretations, there may be difference in our understanding, but there cannot be two paths leading to His house. If we seek Him within, we will find the same path — that is of sound, that is of light. And if we search Him outside, everybody has his own path. They cannot come together. So only on the spiritual basis, on the spiritual platform we can come together." This sounds pretty good, does it not? But let us look at the sentences which precede this. "You see, it's a very common logic. If the Lord is one and He's within every one of us, and we have to search that Lord within our body, the path leading to that destination, to our home, cannot be two. Everybody has same eyes, same nose, same mouth, same hands — everybody is looking alike. So it is impossible to think, for a human conception even to think about this thing — that for Christians there can be a different path leading to the Lord's house — for a Hindu, for a Sikh or Muslim, there can be a different path leading to Him." This false teacher would fit right into the modern ecumenical movement!

Next we find in our study verse that the word of God is a divider of "the joints and marrow." We believe this speaks of human or earthly things. In place of the division found in the Word of God, the vast majority of those today in the earthly church would divide the Bible into "essentials and non-essentials." While we are willing to allow God to "draw the line" on who enters Heaven and who will not, we believe EVERYTHING that is in the word of God is of utmost importance. There are some ABSOLUTES such as the virgin birth, vicarious atonement, and bodily resurrection which are necessary to be believed for salvation. But they are not more important than anything that God has spoken!

The last part of our study verse tells us the word of God "is a discerner of the thoughts and intents of the heart." It is much easier to use the sword on others than to allow the Holy Spirit to "operate" on us with it. But the Church will never have true power and we can not have real peace with God until we allow this to happen. God knows our very thoughts. There is nothing we can hide from Him. We can hide a sin from the Church, from our neighborhood, and perhaps even from our family. But we can hide nothing from God!

If you have never come to a saving knowledge of Jesus Christ allow God, through His written and Living Word, to bring you to this point. Eternity is in the balance of your decision.

James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

February 15, 1926

THE CHURCH OF PHILADELPHIA

J. H. Beer

"And to the angel of the Church in Philadelphia write; these things saith he that is holy, he that is true, he that hath the key of David, he that openeth and no man shutteth and shutteth and no man openeth. I know thy works: behold I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it: for thou hast a little strength, and hast not denied my name. Behold I will make them of the synagogue of satan, which say they are Jews, and are not, but do lie; behold, I will make them to come and worship before thy feet, and to know that I have loved thee. Because thou hast kept the word of my patience, I also will keep thee from the hour of temptation, which shall come upon the world to try them that dwell upon the earth. Behold I come quickly: hold that fast, which thou hast,

that no man take thy crown. Him that overcometh will I make a pillar in the temple of my God, and he shall go no more out: and I will write upon him the name of my God, and the name of the city of my God, which is New Jerusalem, which cometh down out of heaven from my God: and I will write upon him my new name. He that hath an ear let him hear what the Spirit saith unto the churches." This letter to the angel (elder) of the church in Philadelphia, represents Jesus Christ, as the Alpha and Omega of salvation. "I have set before thee an open door, and no man can shut it, for thou hast a little strength, and hast kept my word, and hast not denied my name." Here are two conditions that are fundamental to salvation: Keeping (obeying) his word and not denying his name. (Heb. 5:9; II Tim. 2:12) Any individual or system of religion that compromises or suppresses any part of Christ's teaching is a dangerous system, and cannot be accepted by the followers of Christ. He has set before the church an open door (opportunity) to both teach and obey the whole Gospel, to do otherwise is to invite him to close the door. There is no justifiable reason why any individual or church should refuse to obey the teachings of Jesus Christ, verse 13, "He that hath an ear to hear let him hear what the spirit saith unto the churches." (Rev. 22:18-19) Neither add to, nor take from, these things "saith he that is holy, he that is true." "In Him was no sin", no doubt of any kind, otherwise he could not have saved us from our sin. (I Pet. 1:19) "But with the precious blood of Jesus, as a lamb without blemish and without spot." Christ is also true in contrast with those of verse 9, "Who are of the synagogue of satan, who say they are Jews, and are not but do lie." They claimed to be his true worshipers but were not; they had not kept his word or confessed his name. You cannot deceive him who is the truth; false professors have no chance with him. He is the true heir to the throne of David. (Luke 1:32) He now has power to open and shut the door into heaven, for he has the keys of death and hell." (Rev. 1:18) "I am he that liveth and was dead, and behold I am alive forevermore; amen, and have the keys to death and hell." The claim that the Pope has the keys is a delusion. Jesus now lives and says he has the keys. Do you believe it? Let us notice verse 10: "Because thou hast kept the word of my patience I will also keep thee from the hour of temptation which shall come upon all the world, to try them that dwell upon the earth." Here is a promise of Christ's keeping power over his faithful ones in the hour of temptation. Those who have obeyed his word. This may be the trying time when there seems to be a world wide unrest, and a desire for a social, theatrical entertaining, compromising kind of religion. Pastors and preachers are trying to out do each other in entertaining the people, and to be popular

with the world. They love the praise of men more than praise of God. Dear brother and sister, can you stand true to Jesus Christ, and his word when the great multitudes by their actions are saying crucify Him? Are you ready to meet the crisis when the hour of trial comes? Verse 11 says, "Behold I come quickly, hold fast that which thou hast, that no man take thy crown."

This church has the opportunity and so you have the opportunity to hold fast to Jesus Christ; let no man take thy crown. Many will fail to receive the crown because they choose to follow the teaching of men, rather than the teachings of Christ. God has given you the opportunity to witness for him. Will you fail him? If you must lose everything else, hold fast to the word of God. There never was a time when the church needed faithful men to cry aloud against the evils and sinful things that are creeping into the church than just now. You may be censured for doing so. You might be evil spoken of, but preach the word. This church represents the true and faithful followers of Jesus Christ. "Blessed are they that do his commandments that they may have a right to the tree of life, and may enter in thru the gates into the city." Salvation is a personal matter, let no man deceive you.

## NEWS ITEM

### 1986 GENERAL CONFERENCE

The Lord willing, General Conference will be held June 7 through 11, 1986 at the Ohio Missionary Church Conference Grounds, Ludlow Falls, Ohio.

Please send your reservations as soon as possible to:

Bro. Tom St. John  
R. 1 Box 62  
Alvordton, Ohio 43501  
(419) 924-5242

or

Bro. Don Hostetler  
5855 Sweet Potato Ridge Road  
Englewood, Ohio 45322  
(513) 832-3136

or

Bro. Paul Stump  
10340 N. Diamond Mill Road  
Englewood, Ohio 45322  
(513) 836-6559

More details will be given later.

Bro. Harley Flory for the Locating Committee

## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MARCH 1986**

March 2 - Godliness and Contentment - I Timothy 6:1-11.

1. What should be our attitude toward those we work with? I Tim. 2:1-2.
2. What brings discontentment? James 5:1-6.

March 9 - The Good Fight Of Faith - I Timothy 6:12-21.

1. What kind of battle are we fighting? Eph. 6:12.
2. What part does the rich play in this struggle? I Tim. 6:17-18.

March 16 - An Holy Calling - II Tim. 1:1-18.

1. What type of people are called? I Cor. 1:26-29.
2. How may we prepare for His calling? Eph. 1:18.

March 23 - Enduring All Things - II Tim. 2:1-14.

1. What things are we called on to endure? James 1:12.
2. Will endurance save us? Matt. 10:22.

March 30 - The Resurrection - Matt. 28:1-20.

1. Did some of the Old Testament people believe in the Resurrection? Job 19:25-26.
2. Who is the Power of the Resurrection? Rom. 8:11.

## **YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MARCH 1986**

March 2 - Ignorance - Isaiah 1:1-9; Isaiah 59:1-8; I Peter 1:13-16.

1. What was Isaiah's complaint against the children of Israel? Rom. 10:3.
2. What was the sin of the people of Athens? Acts 17:22-23.

March 9 - Love - I Corinthians 13:1-13.

1. Whom are we to love the most? Deut. 6:5.
2. What is the test of true Discipleship? John 13:35.

March 16 - Values - Joshua 24:13-15; Jeremiah 5:1-4; Rev. 3:14-22.

1. The young man who came to Jesus got his values mixed up. Matt. 19:16-22.
2. Where should we place our values? Matt. 16:26.

March 23 - Our Prayer Life - Daniel 6:10; II Chronicles 7:12-15; Matthew 7:7-11; Romans 8:26-34; Matthew 26:40-44.

1. When should we pray? Luke 18:1.
2. How should we pray and when? Matt. 6:5-6.

March 30 - The Meaning of Easter - Mark 16:1-20.

1. Why is it so important to believe in Christ's Resurrection? John 11:25.
2. What promise is given to those who believe in Him? John 5:23.

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

MARCH 1, 1986

NO. 5

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## OBEDIENCE

When Jesus Christ was here below,  
He taught his people what to do:  
And if we would his precepts keep,  
We must descend to washing feet.

The Lord who made the earth and sky  
Arose, and laid his garments by,  
And washed their feet, to show that we  
Should always kind and loving be.

Peter said, "Lord, it shall not be,  
Thou shalt not stoop to washing me."  
O that no Christian here may say,  
I'm too unworthy to obey.

You call me Lord and Master too;  
Then do as I have done to you;  
All my commands and counsels keep,  
And show your love by washing feet.

Ye shall be happy if ye know,  
And do these things by faith below;  
And I'll protect you till you die,  
And then remove you up on high.

Selected

## FEETWASHING

As the Apostles were preparing to eat the evening meal in the Upper Room, Jesus interrupted them with a new activity. "He riseth from supper, and laid aside his garments; and took a towel, and girded himself. After that he poureth water into a basin, and began to wash the disciples' feet, and to wipe them with the towel wherewith he was girded." John 13:4-5.

These were simple acts, all. These acts are so simple that they could be easily duplicated. The disciples present that evening were able to duplicate them in their lives and ministries. Christians, today, are easily able to repeat the very same acts. There is nothing hard about doing any of these deeds. They are acts done repeatedly in everyday lives. But, it seems very difficult for many people, even professing Christians, to do these acts as a Spiritual activity.

Why, should any object to doing these activities? Because they lack humility. Humility has been cast away by the modern practice of self-assertiveness, independence, and pride.

Humility is necessary to carry out this ordinance. There is a need of humility for one to kneel down to wash another's feet. This is a service that could be unpleasant, for the feet may be very dirty, either literally or figuratively. Pride has to go to wash another's feet, for the one kneeling down has placed himself at the other's service and under his control. Men are quick to think and say that they are as good as any other but contrariwise the thinking should be that the other is as good as he is. Everyone has the same standing and potential before God; especially every Christian. So it should not be difficult to serve the other.

Humility is necessary because one must be willing to humble himself to do what Jesus has commanded. Feetwashing was not a

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

MARCH 1, 1986

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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one time event. Jesus washed and wiped His disciples' feet as an example for Christians of all ages. "If I then, your Lord and Master, have washed your feet: ye also ought to wash one another's feet." Jesus did wash their feet so there is no question but what He commanded them to continue this ordinance. Not only ought they to do it but the Church throughout the Gospel age should observe it. Should it take a great humility to do what is so plainly taught by both word and deed?

Jesus does not leave the matter to just observing the ordinance for humility's sake. He also promises a blessing for those who do it. The blessing is not promised to those who argue against the ordinance nor those who would substitute a good deed for the actual rite of feetwashing. The blessing was promised for actually carrying out of what Jesus had given a literal example.

Jesus had sent some ahead to prepare the meal. Now as He and His companions were just ready to partake of that meal spread on the table, He rose from His seat. The last meal with His followers was to be special. He laid aside His outer garment. He wanted no impairment in performing this new rite. He next girded Himself with a towel of sufficient length to go around His waist. Jesus thought of everything necessary to carry out the ordinance. He was not going to leave them with wet feet. He was going to dry them with this towel. He poured water into a basin so He could wash their feet.

They did not comprehend just what He was doing. This was not the usual custom of washing feet dirty from daily activities. If it had been that custom each man would have washed his own feet at the door when they came in. Their feet were not physically dirty. Instead He was washing their feet as a sign of Spiritual cleansing. When Peter protested, Jesus told him it was necessary for Him to wash his feet if he were to have a part with Jesus.

Jesus served them as a servant. He clearly identified Himself as their Lord and Master, yet He was willing to humble Himself to provide this service for them.

As they faintly realized what He was doing, they no longer protested His action. Peter was so enthusiastic that he wanted his hands and head also washed. But the humility was in washing feet not the more honorable parts of the body.

Although feet washing is an ordinance showing service and humility, it does not stand alone. It is a part of a greater service. It is preparatory for the Supper and the bread and the cup. All parts are necessary to please the Heavenly Father who has given us these ordinances. They are for our good, which we realize after we have humbled ourselves and done them.

Jesus washed His disciples' feet as a servant. Can you likewise humble yourself to wash another's feet?

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"way down.... on your knees"

Humility is a quality that Christ requires of every Christian. Although He is exalted and without sin, we are base and must understand our position before Him as well as before other Christians. Now I am not calling us to a bad attitude about ourselves but to a proper self-esteem as ordained by God's Word.

Not only does God command humility in us but Jesus showed the ultimate in submission and humility when He became obedient to death on the cross. (Phil. 2:8) Remember, too, that He was born in the most humble of circumstances to humble parents. He saw Himself as a servant and He stooped to wash the disciples' feet. And even as Christ was richly and eternally blessed in these actions, so we are promised great and wonderful rewards through our obedience in humility. God says He will "esteem us"... "give us grace"... "lift us up"... and "exalt us." Humility is the media on which the rest of our Christian life grows. It is the essential element.

Humility is shown by us in our relationship with God, with ourselves and with others. We are to be humble toward God and His word, humble in regard to blessings and trials, humble in regard to our abilities and achievements and in our relationships with other Christians.

Humility might well be compared to fearing God. It begins with a very high view of God's person and an understanding, in awe, of His holiness and majesty. There is no time that man came in contact with God in the Scripture that he was not brought low and humble in His presence. Moses bowed to the ground and worshiped Him. Isaiah cried out, "Woe is me!" John fell at His feet as though dead.

Our humility before God has its genesis in our relationships with other people. When our relationships with other Christians are good and when we esteem others as better than ourselves, then we can humble ourselves before God and receive His blessings for the right perspective and attitude in our lives. Even as others mistreat us and circumstances become difficult to handle, yet we are to humbly accept them and practice humility in those relationships.

To be humble before God is to highly esteem His Word. We can look at King Josiah in the book of II Kings and see a man who trembled at the word of God, thus his heart was responsive, he acknowledged the sin of his people and God heard him. He didn't dispute God's word, he simply obeyed it. Our attitude toward the Bible must be similarly humble. As we search the Scriptures, we

must allow them to search us... to look in judgment on our character and our conduct. The Word is not just a source of knowledge about God, it is His personal message to us about His will for our daily lives.

Even our beliefs should be held in a spirit of true humility. Sometimes we flaunt them so irreverently and dogmatically that we gain a "superiority complex" from them. We might very well not be the depository of the sum total of all God's teachings and we can humbly accept and reflect on those things the Spirit has revealed to us. We can praise Him for an opportunity to serve in obedience.

Humility in regard to our gifts, abilities and attainments is absolutely necessary. We should stand in awe of God... the giver of these gifts. We, of ourselves, are not wiser or more blessed as we express our God given talents, but we are only reflections of the One who has created us. God's grace is all important here. Every ability comes from God and has been given to be used in serving Him. Even the "hard work" that we hear about that elicits achievement is a gift from God. As Paul declared in I Corinthians... "But by the grace of God I am what I am..."

Does submission mean to always give in to the demands or opinions of others? I don't believe so. It does mean that we should submit to instructions as well as correction from other believers and that we should be teachable or to be humble enough to admit we have erred when another believer corrects us. Peter provides us with an example of submitting to the correction of another believer. When Paul came to Antioch, he found it necessary to rebuke Peter because of his hypocrisy regarding the Gentile Christians. Paul's rebuke was severe and it was done before other believers. In a later letter, Peter calls Paul "our dear brother" and speaks of Paul's letters as part of the divinely inspired writings of the Word of God. Peter had accepted Paul's rebuke and humbly submitted himself to the correction of another believer, even though that believer was "younger in the Lord" than he.

Humility is not only submission but it is also serving one another. Jesus showed us His serving as He washed the disciples' feet and the Word would indicate that He will still be serving us in eternity. (Luke 12:37) The server can expect many blessings for his service.

Finally, humility is shown in honoring others. Do we expect the honour or are we free to give the credit to another? Our answer to that question might well determine our understanding of humility.

Allow Christ to renew your mind. Confess prideful ways and be sensitive to the convicting spirit of God. Humbly submit to Him, serve Him with a right spirit of humility.

## JUST ME

### Part 2

Singles have many needs which are common to all. They need to be included in various activities, and not made to feel like a fifth wheel. They need to be loved and accepted as they are. One single said, "Sometimes I feel like I'm just a nobody unless, and until, I marry." It is us married people who often make singles feel like misfits, hardly a Christian attitude toward them. Single or married, as believers we are part of God's family and should treat each other as such. If we love and respect each other as we should, we help each other to be better persons in Christ.

One who was single many years and is now married, said, "Sometimes unbelievers accept singles better than the Church does." Singles need to be accepted, to be included, to be loved and wanted. One young sister, new to a certain area, was ignored and excluded by her Church-going peers. She couldn't bear the hurt and loneliness, and eventually sought friends elsewhere to her own detriment. We are very selfish when we ignore our single friends. It hurts not to be included, and especially so when singles exclude other singles. Shame on us for our thoughtlessness and lack of Christian love!

Some of the frustrations of being single are: criticism of their lifestyle by married people, being the only single in a group of couples, and so forth. One single said the most frustrating part was a feeling of being less than whole. Those of us who are married ought to be sensitive to the special needs of our single friends. We ought to avoid criticizing and let God do the directing. We should appreciate singles for what they are, a whole person, complete in Christ, and let them know it! Singles need to know someone cares, just as much as others do.

What is there in life for a single? They will find satisfaction in their jobs, but that's only one part. Every single needs to get involved in life now. Now is the time to seek God's guidance and look for ways to help others. Now is the time to witness and serve, to do something special for someone else. Now is the time to be sensitive to the needs of others, and share their joys and sorrows. Now is the time to be content and say with Paul, "For I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content." Phil. 4:11.

Especially, now is the time to tend to your own spiritual needs. Bible study can be difficult alone, and might be easier if you had someone special to share with, but personal time alone with God is still needful. Besides, being married doesn't guarantee one will have someone to share spiritual things with. It does help to have a time of fellowship with a friend, but whatever you do, don't neglect

your spiritual life. You need a close relationship with the Lord just as much as anyone else so you will have strength to cope with the challenges of life.

Some singles among us must live so because of some very unfortunate situation. Some are divorced, some are widowed, but all need our love and consideration. When a person is alone, whatever the reason, he or she needs other Christians. There is a need to be accepted, loved and encouraged (this need is common to all people), and to have times of fellowship besides time spent at worship services. An invitation to lunch, an evening visit or some other way of sharing some time would be welcome, and says 'I care'. This is the message we need to convey.

Where there is a problem situation such as a family problem, we tend to withdraw and criticize, when we should be helping that one go on to better things. This person's need ought to touch our hearts, rather than our "criticism button." It would be far better for all concerned if we didn't have such difficulties to deal with, but they're here and it's wrong to ignore them. There is a need in times of trouble for Christian compassion and shame on us if all we do is criticize! When someone is left alone, our compassion is needed even more.

Our attitude towards others and whether or not we really care is important in all relationships. Whether or not someone is single, be it by choice or by 'chance', that should not affect our attitude toward them. We need to have the same loving, caring spirit toward all. If we treat people with indifference, and are not sensitive to their needs, we are in effect rejecting them. However it comes, rejection hurts and the scars may never go away. Singles need to care about singles as well as married couples, and married couples need to be just as concerned about their single friends as about their married ones.

"Seek ye first the kingdom of God, and his righteousness; and all these things shall be added unto you." Matt. 6:33. Whatever your status in life, God should come first. Then He will add whatever is needful and good. Whether you are "just me" or part of a larger unit, God has a purpose for you. May you look to Him for direction in your life.



My special thanks to the ones who contributed to this series on the needs of singles. Together, we hope you, the reader, will stop and think about your relationship to your single friends. Consider their needs, their hopes and dreams, and do what you can to encourage them in Christ.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## AN UNANSWERED QUESTION

We quote Proverbs 27:4, "Wrath is cruel, and anger is outrageous;" (these two sins are well known with their definitions) "but who is able to stand before envy?"

We have to turn back to Genesis 4:3-8 for a setting. Two brothers, Cain, the eldest, a tiller of the ground and Abel, his brother, a keeper of sheep, brought the firstling of his flock to offer a sacrifice unto the Lord. (Giving a sacrifice unto the Lord was an inherited gift.) If you had eaves-dropped on their conversation what would you have learned? Sad! Love had not began to grow. The Lord had respect unto Abel and his offering. The shedding of blood is the perfect sacrifice. It was God's choice. It was His Sovereign will to accept a blood sacrifice. Cain was wroth and his countenance fell. "If thou doest well shalt thou not be accepted? and if thou doest not well, sin lieth at the door, and unto thee his desire, and thou shalt rule over him." Cain talked with Abel his brother; they were in the field, then Cain rose up against his brother and slew him.

We are thinking of Jacob's family. Twelve brothers in whom we don't see much love for one another. The younger boy Joseph was Jacob's favorite son. Envy entered to destroy the family. God took care of Joseph and made him a blessing.

Generations come and go but evil came to King Saul in the defeat of Goliath by David. "Saul hath slain his thousands and David his ten thousands." God blessed David and gave him the kingdom. The evil spirit ruled in the heart of Saul all of his life.

Envy is a deadly sin. Solomon said in Proverbs 14:30 "A sound heart is the life of the flesh; but envy is the rottenness of the bones." It is a bone disease, inherited from Cain.

We see parents teach children war and to take advantage of their playmates. Toy guns and other war material tend to keep the war spirit alive to curse the human race.

"If the foundations be destroyed, what can the righteous do?" Jesus gave us the cure for all sin, and to put away sin for ever. In Him is no sin. If we apply the Gospel cure we have the assurance of full Salvation. "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Romans 5:8.

Abel was the first to die for the sin of envy. Jesus stood before Pilate who said, "take ye him, and crucify him; for I find no fault in him." Jesus accepted the sentence for He knew that for envy they had delivered Him.

Brother L. A. Shumake

## THE CHURCH

Through a great concern for the Church I would like to express a few thoughts. We are living in a time of much confusion. God has permitted me to live a good many years, to see many changes. Faithful Brethren and Sisters labored for the Church until God called them Home, then the younger ones coming on take up the work, and faithfully stand on the Word of God.

We need never be ashamed to stand for God's Word, for it shall stand.

"Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away." Matt. 24:35. In our day there are many ways and means to destroy God's Word. We must be aware of Satan's devices to destroy the Church, but our God is all power. "Ye are of God, little children, and have overcome them: because greater is he that is in you, than he that is in the world." I John 4:4. May God help us to be humble. Many seek to be exalted in this world.

A very serious and sobering thought to me is found in this scripture. "Follow peace with all men, and holiness, without which no man shall see the Lord:" Hebrews 12:14. We need to pray for one another and love one another with a true heart... Jesus will never leave nor forsake His own. Our greatest hope will be to stay by God's word, with much prayer for guidance. "Trust in the Lord with all thine heart; and lean not unto thine own understanding." Prov. 3:5.

In the early church there was much persecution. Many gave their lives for Jesus' sake. Such persecution we have not experienced as yet.

The Apostle Paul was commanding his apostleship when he said, "Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distresses for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong." II Corin. 12:10. "I beseech you therefore, brethren by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Rom. 12:1.

May God help us to be faithful till the end is my prayer.

A charge to keep I have,  
A God to glorify,  
A never dying soul to save,  
And fit it for the sky.

Sister Clara Gunderman

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

"SUBDUE THE EARTH"

B. F. Masterson

When God created man, he blessed them, and said, "Be fruitful and multiply and replenish the earth and subdue it."

The creation is composed of three great spheres of existence, the world of matter, the animal world and the world of spirit as represented by man. This constitutes all the universe known to us. In man, the image of his Creator, the climax of God's creative power was reached. In man he placed a dominating power over the animal world and matter.

I am impressed with the thought that man is to subdue the earth. The exertion of power to bring the earth in permanent subjection to him and thus furnish him a legitimate living of pleasure and honor.

The word "subdue" does not only imply a struggle but also an opposing element so that one has to depend on his own resources for existence hence when one starts out in life he should not become dismayed when his bark is tossed to and fro on life's troubled sea, for the space between the individual and that of an honest living must be occupied by labor. "Labor has its sure reward."

We often hear the expression, "The world owes me a living." The earth owes one a living to the extent that he exerts body and mind to subdue it. He who is physically and mentally able, and does not strive towards making a living to him the world owes absolutely nothing. "If any man would not work neither shall he eat." II Thess. 3:10.

The earth was created to serve man providing he will do his part in subduing it — for instance, artificial light was produced by means of a bowl with oil and wick in it, called a lamp, from the beginning until within the last hundred years, then gas and coal oil was discovered, and later electricity which far exceeds any other means. This was brought about by bringing material under subjection. I suppose that Adam rode on as fine a steed as ever galloped on the earth and our forefathers galloped along in the same style until within a hundred years carriages were introduced, later cars propelled by steam power on rails, and now man transports himself and family on automobiles. How was this change brought about? By the exertion of body and brain.

The same with nautical transportation. Our forefathers in crossing the ocean two hundred years ago suffered great hardships being on the water for months and now the trip is made in a few days, but more remarkable is the airplane that carries its passengers on wings

above and across the waters in hours. Is this the fulfillment of prophecy? "And there shall be no more sea."

Not many years ago, by means of peculiar net work of wires, cities, states and nations were brought within speaking distance. Later the wireless system was invented and now radio has been discovered by which means one can hear speeches and music at great distances. The labor saving machinery invented for manufacturing and agricultural purposes illustrates the superior God given power to man to subdue the earth and makes it subservant to himself. Man is the connecting link between the world of matter and the spiritual. "The first man is of the earth earthly; the second is the Lord from heaven." In the heart of man heaven and earth meets. Man in his regenerated state looks down on what he has achieved, with satisfaction and looks up to Him who has created him, in humble subjection and in a worshipful spirit. The first involves the mortal life, the second eternal life.

Man is a dual person, composed of flesh (matter) and spirit. "The flesh lusteth against the spirit and the spirit against the flesh and these are contrary the one to the other." The passion of the flesh, the lust of the eye and the pride of life proceed from the earthly and as we are commanded to subdue the earth to make it our servant, so are we also commanded to subdue these evil inclinations that proceed from the flesh, to be servants of the Lord, and it requires a greater conflict to bring these sinful passions under subjection than for man to subdue the earth.

As men through scientific processes has embellished, enriched and made the earth commodious for him to dwell in, so our creator wants man to beautify character for his glorification and for the benefit of our fellows, and it requires no less a scientific process to attain to a pure and holy standard of living than the first.

But its oppositeness to worldly knowledge is so marked that Christ was made to say, "strait is the gate and narrow is the way, which leadeth unto life and few there be that find it." And Paul warned the Colossians to take heed lest there shall be any one that maketh spoil of you through his philosophy and vain deceit, after the tradition of men, after the rudiments of the world and not after Christ, or Christ's philosophy.

Beware lest any man rob you, as the German text has it, which signifies, to be robbed of their goods, which was the salvation they had received from Christ.

I therefore think it proper to term the economy of grace, "Christ philosophy", since the word means "a lover of wisdom." Jesus taught that wisdom which was from above, "For in him dwelleth all the fullness of the Godhead bodily", and by making His philosophy ours, it makes us complete in Him.

The first is acquired through experimental knowledge of the material, and the second through experimental knowledge of the spiritual. The one does not take the place of the other. To beautify character is indeed a great work and is the aim of the child of God to work for an increase of holiness, and the shortest way to it is to yield ourselves unto God, "as those that are alive from the dead and our members as instruments of righteousness unto God." But here is where satan takes a stand by making a strong plea for the gratification of the flesh in what are termed little things, such as wearing of gold for adornment, bobbing the hair, unseemly dressing, social games of cards, and so forth, theater going and a thousand other things that gratify instead of subduing the sinful desires of the flesh which many elders neglect to reprove, with the plea that they are after bigger things, but believe me, to neglect to reprove the members in these little things leaves a gravel in the shoe that causes one to limp in pursuit of bigger things.

## NEWS ITEMS

### THANK YOU

We want to thank everyone for all the lovely cards and letters received in honor of our 50th Anniversary. You helped to make our "Special Day" a happy one. May God richly bless you for your thoughtfulness.

Yours in Christian Love,  
Boyd and Lela Wyatt

### PLEASANT HOME, CALIFORNIA

Our Spring Lovefeast has been changed from the set date to coincide with the District Conference, March 28 through 30.

A preaching service on Friday evening will begin the week-end meetings. Saturday morning is the scheduled business meeting, with the examination sermon in the afternoon and Lovefeast to follow. Sunday services are regular.

Come if you can, and pray that the Lord will direct in all our plans and purposes.

Sister Edith Moss, Cor.  
CORRECTIONS

Inadvertantly the Editor missed a couple of changes for the February 1, 1986 issue.

The telephone number of Bro. William Heisey is 513-448-2560.

The directions to the Lititz Congregation Church House are: Turn east on Newport Road about one mile north of Lititz on Rt. 501. Go to second crossroads and turn right. The Church is on the right.

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

### HIS FATHERLY CARE

J. H. Moore

God not only made all things, but he looks after the works of his hands with a fatherly care, and reduces everything to a working system which, for harmony and precision, baffles the comprehension of man. In the great, boundless universe, with its thousands of stupendous bodies, all set in order, constantly in motion, there is not a hitch. The Lord directs the workings of every part of his vast machinery with a skill unknown to the most advanced intellects of earth. Then, too, he has so nicely adjusted the conditions of the earth, to the needs of man, as to impress every thinking person with the thought of his loving and fatherly care of his children. Who can look out upon the starry heavens, and then look at the earth, with all of its adaptations for man, and say that ours is not a wise, kind, loving, merciful and just Father?

## OBITUARIES

LUCILLE RUPP

Sis. Bertha Lucille Rupp, was born at McClave, Colorado, May 16, 1926, to Bro. Melvin and Sis. Sarah Roesch, and departed this life, January 13, 1986.

In 1941, she moved with her parents and sisters to Fostoria, Ohio. In 1944 the family moved to Wauseon, Ohio. In that year she accepted the Lord as her Savior and was baptized by immersion and became a member of the West Fulton Dunkard Brethren Church where she remained a faithful member till her death.

On December 23, 1945 she was united in marriage to Bro. Denver Rupp, who survives.

In October 1952, she with her husband accepted the call to the deacons office, where they remained faithful. Lucille was very active in the affairs of the church, trying to do her best in service of the Lord. She enjoyed singing very much.

She was preceded in death by a sister in infancy. She leaves to mourn her passing, her husband, Denver; two foster sons, Edward Rupp of Bryan, Ohio and Gary Woods of Pioneer, Ohio; and four foster grandchildren; her parents, Melvin and Sarah Roesch of West Unity, Ohio; three sisters, Maxine Leatherman of Wauseon, Ohio; Ruby Pike of West Unity, Ohio; Beulah Swihart of Goshen, Indiana; nieces, nephews, and many relatives and friends.

The family wishes to express thanks and appreciation to all for the many prayers, cards, and all the thoughtfulness extended to all of us during this time of bereavement.

Jesus, while our hearts are hurting,  
O'er the spoils that death has won,  
We would at this solemn meeting  
Calmly say, "Thy will be done."

Tho' cast down, we're not forsaken,  
Tho' afflicted, not alone,  
Thou didst give, and Thou hast taken,  
Blessed Lord, Thy will be done.

Tho' today we're filled with sadness  
Merely still is on the throne,  
With Thy smiles of love returning,  
We can sing, "Thy will be done."

By Thy hands the boon was given,  
Thou hast taken but thine own,  
Lord of earth, and God of Heaven,  
Evermore-Thy will be done.

Services were held January 16, 1986 at 10 a.m. at the West Fulton Dunkard Brethren Church, with Elder Edward Johnson officiating, assisted by Elder Charles Leatherman.

Final resting place at the Floral Grove Cemetery, Pioneer, Ohio.

#### MELVIN ROESCH

Melvin Clement Roesch was born May 24, 1901 at Quinter, Kansas to John and Katie (Finkenbinder) Roesch. He departed this life on January 24, 1986 at the Williams County General Hospital, Montpelier, Ohio.

The family, later moved to Scott County Kansas. In early youth he was baptized and became a member of the Church of the Brethren. In 1921 the family moved to New Mexico. On February 17, 1923 he was united in marriage to Sarah Jarboe. In December 1923 he and his companion moved to McClave, Colorado. To this union were born five daughters. One daughter passed away in infancy. One daughter, Lucille, passed away January 13, 1986, just eleven days prior to her father's passing.

The family moved to Fostoria, Ohio in 1941. In 1944 the family moved to Wauseon, Ohio. He and his companion were charter members when the Dunkard Brethren Church was organized in 1926. In 1933 he and his companion were chosen to the deacon's office. Later in 1937 he was installed to the ministry. In 1943 he was ordained to the Eldership where he served for 36 years. Melvin was a self-employed painter and has resided at West Unity since 1971.

He leaves to mourn his passing, his wife Sarah, three daughters, Maxine Leatherman, Wauseon, Ohio; Ruby Pike, West Unity, Ohio;

Beulah Swihart, Goshen, Indiana; twelve grandchildren, two foster grandsons, twenty-one great-grandchildren, four foster great-grandchildren; one sister, Bertha Jarboe, Grandview, Missouri; nieces and nephews. Besides the two daughters, he was preceded in death by two brothers and three sisters.

The family wishes to express thanks and appreciation for the prayers and thoughtfulness to the many relatives and friends in this hour of sorrow.

One or the other must leave  
One or the other must stay,  
One or the other must grieve  
This is forever the way.

This is the vow we make  
Faithful till death do us part.  
Bearing what has to be borne  
Hiding the ache in the heart.

One however adored  
First will be summoned away  
This is the will of the Lord,  
One or the other must stay.

Services were held January 27, 1986 at 10 a.m. at the West Fulton Dunkard Brethren Church, with Elder Dean St. John officiating, assisted by Bro. Dennis St. John.

Final resting place at the Smith Cemetery, Wauseon, Ohio.



### **IF YOU, A PROFESSED CHRISTIAN.....**

do not seek to exalt Jesus the Christ, the Son of the living God, in your daily life....

do not honor His authority by deliberate study and sharing of His revealed Word....

do not obey His ordinances just as He ordained them....

do not manifest His compassion by doing all you can to minister to those in physical, emotional, and spiritual need, on a regular basis....

do not endeavor to find your place in the work and order of the local congregation....

do not renounce worldliness and materialism....

do not take a strong stand against falsehood and hypocrisy....

THEN YOU ARE NOT A CHRISTIAN, no matter what you may call yourself....

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(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

MARCH 15, 1986

NO. 6

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## SHEEP AND GOATS

Sheep will follow their shepherd,  
With goats it is not so,  
They won't follow their master  
Wherever he would go.

They ignore the voice of him  
Who would show them the way,  
But Sheep will watch him closely  
Then do what he would say.

The goats will trod the broad way  
To enter the wide gate,  
And since they do not listen  
Will suffer a bad fate.

But the strait and narrow way  
Is the way sheep do trod...  
In following their Master  
Leads through the gate to God.

- Sister Irene Stout  
Rt. 1 Box 160, Wabash, IN 46992

## WORK AND FUN

Breaktime, lunchtime, recess, weekend, day off or vacation time. These periods of time are much discussed and greatly looked forward to. Whenever we have a period that frees us from our work or studies we want to use it to have a good time. Much of our conversation concerns having a good time. We want to have fun. That is why we look forward to these periods of time so diligently. We endure the periods of work and study in order to have these shorter periods of fun time.

There is very much a feeling that work and study are somehow demeaning. We rush through the workweek so we can have a day or two away from work. Friday becomes almost a national holiday as workers ignore their duties to concentrate on their weekend plans. Friday has, for many, become a part of the weekend. Friday work hours are often shortened for many workers.

After a period of sustained work or study a time of relaxation and rest are beneficial. But the national mania for fun goes beyond any real need. The craving for a good time is stronger than the desire to do a good job or serve the employer or the public. Our work is confined to a few specific hours each day for which we receive compensation. What is left over is supposedly ours to do with as we please. After a week's work we expect a couple of days off. Then once or twice a year we expect to have a week or two for vacation. All these times are supposedly fun times, at least, our hopes and plans are built on the premise of having fun.

We have forgotten the beauty and worth of work. Perhaps some

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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employers and supervisors have added to the drudgery of the workplace through poor attitudes and lack of appreciation. Whether the work place is enjoyable or not, the work, if honest and needed, is important. While the unbelievers around us could not be expected to want anything but fun, the Christian must be careful about his attitude toward his work and his supervisors. The Christian should see the hand of God in the daily activities of life.

In times past when most of the Brethren were farmers or self-employed craftsmen they were working for themselves and could control their hours so time was set aside for the worship of God and fellowship with the saints. Now most work for others. Often these employers do not or dare not give them any special consideration concerning their time off or even during their work hours.

The Christian must be devoted in his work habits, even if work conditions are not all he would desire. He is there to serve the employer in an honest and diligent way. To use his time to entertain himself and others is a means of stealing from the employer. If we can pursue our employment seriously we need to consider the seriousness of all of life.

Life is not merely a time to have fun with a few interruptions for work. God intends for us to regard the seriousness of life. We dare not allow ourselves to be allured from considering the seriousness of life by the enemy of our souls. Our enemy wants nothing more than for us to pursue fun and to ignore the welfare of our souls. He would rather we would just have a good time and push from our minds the decisions necessary to be made in our lives and the consequences of those decisions. He does not want us to realize that those about us are dying and meeting God's judgment unprepared. He does not want us to consider our material and physical decisions in light of the Word of God. Nor does he want us to be very careful in our life styles that they should match God's will for our lives.

Fun is a device of the devil to keep us from serious thought. If we are having a good time we are not considering the real issues of life. When our lives are devoted to pleasure they are not given to serving God. He would not have us dour and sour nor would He want us to be giddy and unthinking. Life is serious for it is a time of preparation not only for a future in this world but also for eternity.

If we are preparing for eternity there must be more serious concerns than the latest ball scores or horse races or whatever our fun would be. If we are preparing ourselves for eternity and

want to help others prepare adequately, we must commit our time and resources to causes other than entertainment and pleasure.

Doing God's Will should be the fun and pleasure of the Christian's life. How are you having fun?

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **"JOY"**

One of the special attributes of the true Christian should be that of joy and yet it seems that it is not very evident in the lives of many people. God is not totally satisfied with only righteousness and peace in our lives. He wants us to express it in joy. Why? Because the Christian is the only person on earth who has a real reason to be joyful. For us it is both a privilege and a duty. We have life... eternal and abundant... and that should elicit joy in our experience.

Christian joy does not come from only circumstances that make us particularly joyful. We are commanded to be joyful always. (I Thess. 5:16) It is a fruit of the Spirit and can be experienced by all of us.

It is a contradiction for a Christian who professes to be a child of the true God to wear a gloomy countenance. Yet, if we are honest, life often seems anything but joyful. It seems at best a bit dull and at worse is filled with conflict, anxiety and tensions. This is especially true today as we are living in the end times and Satan is creating an atmosphere of chaos wherever and whenever possible.

Sin is the greatest hinderance to joy in our lives. Because joy is a result of communion with God, when it is interrupted, our enjoyment is gone. When David confessed his sin of adultery with Bathsheba, he prayed, "Restore to me the JOY of thy salvation." (Ps. 51:12) David always lacked in joy when he was agonizing over his sin. If we are not experiencing joy as we would like, we should examine our hearts and lives. Are we doing something that is displeasing God? Do we have unconfessed sin in our life? Have we forsaken some Christian obligation to another brother or sister or to God? Or, maybe we are holding on to an attitude of envy or resentment or have an unforgiving and critical spirit. Joy cannot exist where these attitudes are controlling our hearts and we must deal with them to regain the joy, which we are promised.

Sometimes we do not have joy because we have a "misplaced confidence." When our trust is in the world or the world's people, we can expect disappointments and sorrows. If joy is tied to humanistic desires and values, it is fleeting and temporary.

We can rejoice in the fact that our names are written down in Heaven. Nothing in this life could ever bring any more joy than that. All believers have that as common ground for joy.

Chastening or discipline sometimes seems to choke off our joy. But if we keep our eyes on the resultant renewed relationship with Christ and the church, joy can be found in its results rather than self-pity. There is joy in knowing that God disciplines those whom He loves.

Trials seem to be a hinderance to some people's faith. God allows trials in order that we might develop perseverance in our Christian walk and to fix our hopes on Him and a future perfect place which He has gone to prepare for us. Bad health, financial reverses, criticism and rejection are trials. These situations can, however, strengthen our character. You have probably heard the saying, "No pain, no gain!" If you are a muscle builder, you know that you have to endure the agony of lifting more than the muscles can stand before they can comfortably handle the weight at final contests. So it is with faith. Our faith and perseverance can grow only under pain and trial.

God's Word brings joy. As it answers life's questions and gives us stable direction, we can express our confidence in joy.

Forgiveness is a source of joy. Isn't it an amazing thing to consider God's faithfulness in forgiving our sins? As we are restored to His fellowship, joy must well up within us.

Joy comes with trust.... trust that God's Word is true and that ALL of His promises are valid. We are filled with joy as we trust in Him.

To take a long-range view of our life and our eternal existence is reason for joy. We have hope in a world without hope. We have security when social security is going on the rocks. We have a future!

Joy comes in being thankful. We are thankful that all things work for our good as Christians, that we can be delivered from trials, that nothing is impossible with our God and that He is ever working for our good.

Joy is pleasing to God. Of course, some people are more joyful by nature than others and some are more expressive of it. But every Christian is to exhibit a display of joy, even if expressed in a meek and quiet way. Tolerance should be given from both the quiet and expressive person as the other personality expresses joy in his characteristic way.

Joy DOES give spiritual strength. Do you desire it? Don't go through life glum and complaining but rejoice in the Lord. It is both your duty and privilege.

## I BECAME A MAN

"When I was a child, I spake as a child, I understood as a child, I thought as a child: but when I became a man, I put away childish things." I Cor. 13:11.

There comes a time in life when all of us should grow up and become responsible adults. For some, this maturity comes early in life. For others, it comes later on, and for yet others, it just never happens. Childish ways and childish reasoning are continued well into the adult stage of life. This failure to grow up, to become a mature adult, results in many problems. It shows up as irresponsibility for one's own actions, selfishness, pouting, foolish decisions, and such like. This childishness is the opposite of what an adult should be.

A person who is emotionally immature — still wanting his own way, thinking and acting childishly — cannot be spiritually mature. The same attitudes show up in all areas of life, whether they are good or bad, mature or immature. A child may stomp out of the room, or say nasty things when he can't have his own way, and we deal with the matter accordingly. An adult may be unreasonable and demanding, wanting his own way, but that's all right. The others should just give in to keep peace, or, should they? When anyone hasn't the maturity to put away childish demands and reasoning, he or she needs to be dealt with according to God's Word, just as a child needs parental discipline.

What is a man? A child? First, a child is one who is weak in knowledge, experience, judgment or attainments. A child still has a lot of growing to do — physically, emotionally and spiritually. A child needs discipline and supervision, someone to channel his energy into the right way. A man should be the opposite of a child — mature, experienced, able to use good judgment and so forth. This means he has grown, he has learned from his experiences and is able to apply his knowledge in his daily living. He should be able to discipline and supervise himself, to be sure his life pleases God, and should not need some other adult to do this for him.

We start out as babies, in both our physical and spiritual lives, but we are not to stay that way forever. If we do, there's something wrong. Parents expect their children to grow, and to develop properly, becoming alarmed if they don't. We likewise are expected to grow in grace, to develop properly and become mature Christians. "As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the Word that ye may grow thereby." I Peter 2:2. It is the Word which feeds us and enables us to grow spiritually. Without it, we'll be stunted and sick, never able to mature.

Various things can hinder spiritual growth. Lack of spiritual food, a careless way of life, clinging to childish ways and attitudes are a few of them. God's Word gives us spiritual food for all stages of growth and we must feed on it, then let it really nourish us and change us. The Word within will give us a desire to please God daily, rather than to live carelessly. Mature attitudes will replace immature and childish ones, in a well-nourished Christian. Christian growth and maturity has no room for selfishness, irresponsibility, blaming others for one's own problems, and so forth, because these all are a hindrance.

An adult — a man or mature person — should be self-disciplined and not in need of continual supervision, as a child is. An adult should be able to face his own life with its mistakes, and say, "It's my fault; I did it." He should be able to accept responsibility for his own deeds, rather than blaming someone else. Whenever my Dad misplaced one of his tools, he nearly always blamed some other family member. This, however, did not change the fact that it was his fault and still his responsibility. Blaming others won't get rid of our responsibility to God either.

A child doesn't want correction. He instead wants you to listen to all his troubles, and seeks your sympathy in hopes you will take sides with him. He wants you to rebuke the one he's fighting with, not himself. Adults often act the same way, seeking sympathy instead of a solution when disagreements arise. Yet a mature Christian knows he must accept the responsibility for his own actions. He knows what is right and what is wrong, and tries to live accordingly. An immature believer, like a child, lacks this understanding, and must be taught and retaught. (see Heb. 5:12-14).

Children are unstable (see Eph. 4:14), and limited in understanding (I Cor. 14:20). They are apt to argue, to be foolish and unreasonable. A mature person is more stable, and has a good understanding. He has wisdom in dealing with life, and is easy to be intreated when disagreement arises. "But the wisdom that is from above is first pure, then peaceable, gentle, and easy to be intreated, full of mercy and good fruits, without partiality, and without hypocrisy." (See James 3:14-18) A wise person has the ability to see both sides of an issue, and can be honest and fair in his decisions. Such a person is no longer a child spiritually or emotionally.

There is only one place for us to go to find out what we are now, whether a child or adult spiritually. This same place will tell us what we need to do to mature in Christ. It is God's Word. James wrote in chapter 1:22-25 of those who heard the Word, but didn't live by it, and compared them to people who look in a

mirror and soon forget what they look like. God's Word is the mirror for our souls, and it is needful that we look in it, then correct what is wrong. If we ignore what is there, our knowledge can't help us.

Jesus said, "If a man love me, he will keep my words." John 14:23. Part of His words are that we are to grow in grace and not remain a spiritual child. We don't expect as much from a child as from an adult, and neither does God, but He does expect growth and eventual maturity. Which are you — a child or an adult — and more importantly, what are you doing about it? "In understanding be men." (I Cor. 14:20)

Sister Eileen Broadwater  
R. 1, Pioneer, Ohio 43554

## THE MORAL DECAY OF OUR NATION

I believe all of us who are old in this life will agree that wickedness is much worse now than it was in the days of our youth. In our schools the first thing in the morning was Bible reading and prayer. Some time ago the judges of the highest court of our nation ruled that it be taken out of our schools. Some religious leaders have been working hard for some time to have it reinstated. But it seems they are not getting anything accomplished.

In the school days of our youth we did not hear anything about the using of dope. Now we hear it is used by many of our teenage school children. It is used by many adults, making it unsafe to travel on the highways and walk the sidewalks of our city streets.

I remember the time at school all the children were decently and respectfully dressed and you did not see people in public places less than half dressed.

Divorce and remarriage is much worse now. Some claim it is alright for men and women to live together and raise a family without marriage.

Many of the wicked things of now, we did not hear of in the early part of this century. Robbery and murder are much worse now. Some time ago abortion was legalized by the authorities of our nation and millions of unborn infants are being destroyed. Some of our religious leaders have been protesting against it and want it to be again unlawful. It seems they can not get a stop to this terrible destruction of human life.

Many people are killed each year on our highways because of drunken drivers. Too much dope and alcohol have caused many wicked deeds, including murder, to be committed.

We need leaders today like we had when this country came into existence. "For evil men and seducers have waxed worse and worse deceiving and being deceived." We could refer to many more evils that are much worse now than in the days of our youth.

Years ago our country was called a Christian nation. Can we call it so today?

The Lord says if they turn from their wicked ways and abide by His name He will forgive their sins and heal the land. We have a record in God's Word of wicked cities being destroyed. Our country is headed toward destruction. Prophesies of the last days are being fulfilled. He said He would never destroy with water but would do it with fire. How long will our Lord tarry with the wickedness in our land?

Perilous times have come and many professing Christians are overcome by the wicked things of this world. They are not a light to those living in darkness. We are to put on the whole armour of God that we may be able to stand against the wiles of the devil. We should be thankful and appreciate the works of righteousness which along with hope and prayers for repentance will lead to a conversion to the high standard of morality that our faithful foreparents had.

What we need for the betterment of our nation is for many professing Christians, who have compromised with the world and its evils, to repent and turn to the way of truth and righteousness and become a bright and shining light in this dark and sinful world. Professing Christians who have not accepted all the plan of salvation have lost their favor with God. His Word tells us many will come in that day saying, "Lord, Lord, have I not done many wonderful works, cast out devils in thy name," and shall hear the voice "Depart ye workers of iniquity, I never knew you."

It is an important matter that we have washed our robes and made them white in the blood of the lamb. We want to hear the welcome voice, "thou has been faithful over a few things, enter now the joys of they Lord, I will make you ruler over many things."

Have we cast our lot with the faithful servants of the Lord? It should be the greatest concern of our life. Many professing Christians, including Church leaders, are not good examples to others. For if the blind lead the blind both shall fall in the ditch.

It is a very important matter that we turn to the high standard of morality that our faithful foreparents had so we like the Apostle Paul can say, "I have fought a good fight, I have kept the faith, I have finished my course henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness. Not for me only but also for all that love his (Christ's) appearing."

The Apostle Paul and many others went through many hardships in their pathway. Also some whom we labored with have set a good example and have done much for the good of others. We believe they are resting in peace where the cruel hands of strife cannot reach for they continued to look forward to the crown of life that is at the end of the true Christian's pathway.

Brother J. F. Marks  
5225 Sundial Loop  
Plant City, FL 33566

## OBITUARY

### SYLVIA PARKER

Sis. Sylvia Parker was born in Howard County, Indiana to Nathaniel and Martha Kendall on November 21, 1902. Her four brothers and three sisters preceded her in death.

She was married to Basil Malott in September 1921, and to this union was born three children, Herbert, Virginia and Leon. Basil Malott died early in their marriage, as the result of a tragic truck fire.

Sylvia then married Herbert Parker in December 1934, bringing sons Edward and Robert into this combined family.

Early in life Sylvia accepted Christ as her personal Saviour and remained faithful to her calling. At the time of her death, she was a member of the Englewood Dunkard Brethren Church, Englewood, Ohio. She enjoyed her church fellowship very much.

Her son Herbert preceded her in death, also a granddaughter, Joyce Parker, and her husband Herbert Parker in 1979.

Sylvia passed away at Dettmer Hospital, Troy, Ohio on February 13, 1986, at the age of 83 years.

Survivors include one daughter, Mrs. Harold (Virginia) Van Dyke of West Milton, Ohio and one son Leon Malott of Phillipsburg, Ohio; two stepsons, Edward Parker of Goshen, Indiana and Robert Parker of Peru, Indiana; also twenty-one grandchildren and twenty-seven great-grandchildren.

Funeral services at the Englewood Church, on February 17, 1986, were conducted by Elder Dean St. John with Bro. Paul Stump and Bro. William Heisey assisting.

## HOME AT LAST

Home at last on heavenly mountains  
Heard the "Come and enter in."  
Saved by life's fair flowing fountains,  
Saved from earthly taint and sin.

Free at last from all temptation,  
No more need of watchful care;

Joyful in complete salvation,  
Given the victor's crown to wear.

Welcomed at the pearly portal,  
Evermore a welcome guest;  
Welcomed to life immortal,  
In the mansions of the blest.

Home, sweet home, our home forever,  
All the pilgrim journey past;  
Welcomed home to wander never,  
Saved through Jesus! Home at last.

## NEWS ITEMS

### DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

The Dallas Center Congregation, the Lord willing, will be having Lovefeast Services April 12 and 13. Come worship with us. We will be hosting the District Meeting, April 14. Remember us in your prayers.

Sister Mary Sue Moss, Cor.

### PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

The Pleasant Ridge Congregation plans to have a Lovefeast April 19 and 20, 1986. There will be services all day on Saturday. We invite you to come and worship with us.

Sister Eileen Broadwater, Cor.

### REMINDER

The treasurers of the various boards are reminded to have their books audited as soon as possible. After their reports have been audited and returned to them, they should send them as soon as possible to the Writing Clerk of Standing Committee, Elder Rudy Cover, 2034 Roble Ave., Modesto, CA 95351.

Thank You

### A NOTE OF THANKS

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I wish to thank each and everyone for remembering my wife Ruth during her recent two hospital stays. Your prayers, cards, telephone calls and all kindnesses shown were very much appreciated.

Sister Ruth and Baby Rachel are both doing fine. May the Lord bless ALL of you for caring.

In Christian Love,  
Brother Lynn H. Miller

## SINGING, WONDERFUL WORDS OF PRAISE

### Part 2

The following hymn by A. S. Kieffer from an old "Spirit of Praise" hymn book really touches my heart. Then I think of the multiplied millions of aborted innocent children around the world (1.6 million on an average per year of recorded abortions in the United States alone) who are not even recognized enough to be given a decent burial. Just recently in California a container containing 16,500 aborted innocents were given a Christian burial after a three year controversy between churchmen and government and leftist organizations. The Bible says that he who sheds innocent blood by man must his blood be shed. Gen. 9:6; Num. 35:33. Oh, church people wake up and pray and repent, love one another and the sinner, and be witnesses for Christ. The time is short, the things of this world are only dust and ashes, but our souls are eternal. The blood bath, sounds horrible, but is surely coming, and who shall escape? Have we done all we can reasonably do with the talents and gifts God has given us to work with for Him? Have we committed our all to the Lord? Only He can deliver us from the wrath to come. Now is the day of salvation! Heed His call before it is too late. Apply the love and Spirit of Christ, and keep His commandments. John 14:21 in holiness to the Lord, without which no man shall see him.

### GRAVE ON THE GREEN HILLSIDE

A. S. Kieffer

There's a little grave on the green hillside  
That lies in the morning sun,  
And our wayworn feet often wander there  
When the cares of the day are done;  
There we often sit till the twilight falls,  
And talk of the far off land,  
And we sometimes feel in the twilight there  
The soft touch of the vanished hand.

Chorus:

Grave on the green hillside  
Grave on the green hillside  
In the years to come we will calmly sleep  
In a grave on the green hillside.

Oh, the land is full of the little graves,  
In valley, and plain, and hill,  
There's an angel, too, for each little grave,  
And these angels some mission fill;  
And I know not how, but I sometimes think

They lead us with gentle hand  
 For a whisper falls on our willing ear  
 From the shores of a far-off land.

Chorus:

Grave on the green hillside  
 Grave on the green hillside  
 In the years to come we will calmly sleep  
 In a grave on the green hillside.

And these little graves are but way-side marks  
 That points to the far-off land,  
 And they speak to the soul of a better day,  
 Of a day that is near at hand;  
 Tho' we first must walk thro' the darkness vale,  
 Yet there Christ will be our Guide,  
 And we'll reach the shore of the far-off land  
 Thro' a grave on the green hillside.

I have this song on tape and have listened to it many times. It is sad, but has blessed my soul, and hope it will others also. Christ said, "Whosoever shall not receive the kingdom of God as a little child, he shall not enter therein."

This hymn also inspires my soul and gives me courage. It, too, is from the "Spirit of Praise" hymn book.

### BEYOND THE SUNSET BARS

J. H. Hall

Beyond the sunset bars,  
 Within the golden gate,  
 Apast the silent stars,  
 My land and loving wait;  
 I cannot tell how long  
 The way 'twixt home and me,  
 But where my treasure is,  
 My heart shall ever be.

Chorus:

Within the golden gate,  
 Across the jasper sea,  
 My loved and loving wait,  
 At home to welcome me.

I look into the sky  
 When night comes softly on,  
 And feel that by and by  
 I'll meet the dear ones gone —  
 The dear ones safe at home,  
 And, oh! the joy divine,  
 And peace unspeakable,  
 Shall fill this soul of mine.

Chorus:

When he shall bid me come  
To dwell with Him at last,  
No more in tears to roam  
Life's conflict over-past;  
Where love eternal bides,  
And sorrow never mars,  
No evil e'er betides.  
Beyond the sunset bars.

Chorus:

I hope the Bible Monitor readers enjoy these hymns, and they help to bring inspiration to your souls and a determination to realize the full blessing the Lord has in store for you here and hereafter.

In Christian love,  
Sister Ruth M. Snyder  
RD 2 Box 129  
Oakland, MD 21550

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

March 15, 1926

### LOYALTY TO CHRIST

Lulu M. Kesler

We read in John 12:42, "Among the chief rulers also many believed on him but because of the Pharisees, they did not confess him, lest they should be put out of the synagogue." And in the 43rd verse we see why, "For they love the praise of men more than the praise of God." Just so with many professed Christians today, they may believe on the Christ, but they fail to confess him and to live for him, because they fear the people, lest they be put out of the synagogue. They don't want to be classed with the Christ or his people, for fear the won't get the praise of the crowd or the majority; for they want the praise of men. They want to live a half way Christian, but just a little afraid, as those of old, to confess him either by tongue or by action. But Christ says, "Ye cannot serve God and mammon." So we are either for him or against him. We read again John 9:22 when the parents of the blind man were afraid to confess Christ, for fear of being put out of the synagogue. The man that received the blessing was put out, because he said it was the Christ that had healed him. Some today are afraid to stand up for Christ and his teaching, for fear they won't please the people. We read again in Luke 21:12, "They shall lay their hands on you and persecute you delivering

you up to the synagogue and into prisons being brought before kings and rulers for my name's sake." Again in verse 17 we read, "Ye shall be hated of all men for my name's sake." Then in verse 18 the Christ assures us, "There shall not a hair of your head perish" of those who are faithful to him and stand for him and his blessed word in its fullness, not fearing man or seeking praise of men. Jesus says, "I am come a light into the world, that whosoever believeth on me should not abide in darkness." Now Jesus is our light. How close would we try to follow a light on a dark night, if the roads were slippery and dangerous? We are confronted on all sides with dangerous teachings and we must be lead by Christ our light, or we will be like a ship without a rudder or a mariner without a compass amid the storm of a raging sea, and even at the expense of being "set at naught" or put out of the synagogue, we must be true and loyal to Christ, if we expect his abiding presence with us here and a home with him hereafter.

Lord I have started to walk in the light,  
Shining upon me from heaven so bright;  
I bade the world and its follies adieu,  
I've started in Jesus, and I'm going through.

Many they are who start in the race;  
But with the light they refuse to keep pace;  
Others accept it because it is new,  
But not very many expect to go through.

I'd rather walk with Jesus alone,  
And have for a pillar, like Jacob, a stone,  
Living each moment with His face in view,  
Then shrink from my pathway and fail to go through.

Brother, Sister, now will you take up the cross?  
Give up the world and count it as dross;  
Sell all thou hast, and give to the poor,  
Then go through with Jesus and those who endure.

Chorus:

I'm going through, yes, I'm going through;  
I'll pay the price, whatever others do;  
I'll take the way with the Lord's despised few,  
I'm going through, Jesus, I'm going through.



### AS YOUR SPIRIT IS

For it never fails, as your spirit is, so is also your conduct in life. If the Spirit of Christ, which is holy and pure, is in you, then are also your whole life and fruit pure and holy. Again if the spirit of the evil one, which is impure and wicked, is in you, then all your ways and fruits will be evil and impure. This is incontrovertible.

- Selected by Brother Lynn H. Miller

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR APRIL 1986

April 6 - Prepared for the Master's Use - II Timothy 2:15-26.

1. How can we prepare ourselves for the work of the Master?
2. Are there some things that we need to leave out in our preparation?

April 13 - Perilous Times - II Timothy 3:1-17.

1. What times is Paul referring to?
2. How may we know when we are living in the times he is speaking of?

April 20 - Preaching The Word - II Timothy 4:1-8.

1. What was the charge Paul gave to Timothy?
2. Are people always anxious to hear the Gospel?

April 27 - Deliverance - II Timothy 4:9-22.

1. To whom do we go for deliverance?
2. Should there not be in our hearts a desire for deliverance?

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR APRIL 1986

April 6 - Christianity - Romans 5:1-11; II Peter 1:5-11.

1. How do we become Christians?
2. What are the requirements to become a Christian?

April 13 - Passport Of Life - Proverbs 12:15-28; Ezekiel 33:14-19; Luke 10:25-28.

1. What is a passport?
2. How may we obtain our Heavenly Passport?

April 20 - Christian Race - I Cor. 9:24-27; Phil. 3:13-14; Heb. 12:1-2; II Tim. 4:7-8.

1. Who may run in the Christian race and what are the requirements?
2. What does temperance have to do with running the race?

April 27 - Sins of Youth - Job 13:26; Psalms 25:1-22; Jeremiah 3:23-25.

1. What does the Bible have to say in Eccl. 12:1 concerning youth?
2. In II Timothy 2:22 Timothy is told to flee youthful lusts.

Torreon Navajo Mission  
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(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

APRIL 1, 1986

NO. 7

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## TAKE TIME

Take time to make a happy home,  
One of love and work and play,  
A home where God is important -  
Where you worship Him each day.

Take time to study the Bible -  
To listen, as well as talk,  
To view God's nature around you...  
Or in the woods, take a walk.

Take time to hear the birds singing,  
And stroll by a lazy stream,  
Then why not rest upon a log  
And meditate - or daydream?

Take time to make others happy,  
By actions, show that you care...  
Your happiness can be "catching" -  
So let's be willing to share.

-Sister Irene Stout  
R. 1 Box 160, Wabash, IN 46992

## SPRING

Spring is here! Although it may be wintery in some sections of the country and summery in others. Spring has come. By the calendar it is Spring and even where it still looks and feels like winter there are subtle differences that tell us Spring is here.

With the coming of Spring, there is a lot of talk about the renewal of nature. The trees begin to bud and bloom. The field crops are sown and soon tender shoots burst through the soil. The animals come out of hibernation. There is renewed activity among the plants. Some speak of this as a resurrection. Some celebrate this seasonal change with lustful and impious celebrations. They forget the God who has created this world with its varying seasons.

Those who have forgotten God often speak of nature as their god. The things of nature are their desires. Having forgotten God they have invented certain natural gods that they try to recreate in their own lives. They speak of a supposedly "noble savage" who is untouched by civilization. By "civilization" they mean to say the civilizing effects of Christianity. Where man worships the natural, he forgets that left to his own nature he will be lost.

The natural man comes before the Spiritual man. Each person when born has within him the natural spirit of man. By that spirit he has instincts and desires that he does not need to be taught. This natural man can take care of himself in fulfilling his natural needs but he can do nothing for himself Spiritually. It is after a time of natural life that the understanding is mature enough to

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

APRIL 1, 1986

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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understand and accept Spiritual things. Until that age of accountability is reached there is only a desire for fulfilling natural things. At the age of accountability the opportunity to have Spiritual things is present. A choice has to be made. Will the life be lived only for what is natural or will the higher call to Spirituality be answered affirmatively?

Man may make nature their god but it will prove a poor god. It is a god who will lead them to only fulfill their bodily lusts and pursue the desires of their physical hearts. Instead of seeing nature as an evidence of God's goodness to men, they see it as the main thing.

The trees, the rocks, the heavens, the mountains, all of the scenery are spots of beauty in the world were put there for our benefit. They are benefits not only to provide fuel, clothing, shelter and so on but also for our Spiritual good. They are there that their beauty may draw our minds from the manmade and mundane to that which is higher. When we recognize that trees grow because God put that ability into them. When we recognize that the mountains are situated where they are because God put them there. When we realize the lakes and streams and rivers are there because God put them there. Then our minds can be drawn to the creative power of God.

We must believe God has created this world and each of its components just as He would have them to be. It was not by chance nor was it through a lengthy process as measured by man's ideas of time. What He did, He did quickly. The rocks and streams are a record of God's handiwork. Although men may conjecture that it took thousands and millions of years for these formations to be placed in their present place, God was well able to put them there just by speaking the word. When nature draws our minds to Him and His power it has accomplished the purpose He intended. If instead, our minds are drawn to theories advanced by men for their existence, it will have failed in its purpose as our minds are closed to God's great power.

The trees, animals, and heavens have much to tell us of God. There are many illustrations of Spiritual truths to be found in nature. The farmer's work of growing a crop contains many lessons. The growth of the tree, a ring at a time, even under adverse conditions bespeaks the need for perseverance. The deer's flight from the hunter may encourage the Christian to flee from the destruction devices of Satan. The need for cultivation to destroy the weeds shows the need for weed-elimination in our Spiritual lives. Nature contains many good lessons for our Spiritual lives but it dare not become more important than the Spiritual inspired Word of God.

Although the Bible draws upon the lessons of nature, it is the Spirit's work that is most important. Nature, although it is the handiwork of God, dare not become the god we worship. The Creator is more important than the creature.

Enjoy nature, learn from nature but be careful that it is only a tool to bring you closer to God and to appreciate Him more and more.

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### "Putting on Christ"

To put on Christ is to take on His character. Christlikeness is, first, to be Christ-centered, which we would consider as devotion, and, secondly, to understand His traits and take them as a part of our lives. It is possible that we are expressing reverence for Him and yet we don't have a sincere desire to be like Him. To be like Him puts great demands on our lives.

What exactly are Christ's traits? They are the fullness of the fruits of the Spirit listed in Galatians 5. In addition to the traits of love, joy, peace, patience, kindness, goodness, faithfulness, gentleness and self-control mentioned there, we could add holiness, humility, compassion, forbearance, thankfulness, contentment, sincerity and persistence. To look at this list is awesome and of our own selves we could never achieve all of them. Enablement only can come through the active direction of the Holy Spirit.

As we consider devotion, we understand that it is the only acceptable motive for actions that will please Him. This may be expressed in our life through obedience. Obedience says, "God, I love you." It says, "Lord, I want to be like you." Unfortunately, too often our motives are self-centered rather than Christ-centered. We want to maintain our reputation before other church members or we just want to "feel good about ourselves." In addition, it may just be our motive because Mom and Dad instilled it in us from childhood.

Joseph's statement when enticed by Potipher's wife was not, "If I do that, my master will have my head." Instead it was, "I can not do this thing because it is a sin against God." His motivation for morality was Christ-centered and was thus an acceptable sacrifice.

The ideal to be like Christ takes preparation. Only by teaching and training and exploration of His perfect character can we learn what it means to be like Him. It is setting aside our own wisdom and strength and drawing from the Master's. Wisdom and power for living the Christian life will never be found in man-

made philosophies and values. "Dependence" and "prayer" are key words in our being transformed into His likeness and in manifesting the graces of His godly character.

Christlikeness takes personal effort. There is something YOU can do. You must have an active pursuit of God's will and make a personal application of salvation. You must grow in grace. This means both "putting on" and "putting off" certain traits. You put off the corrupted desires of the old man and put on the new man. (Eph. 4:22-24) You put off lying and put on truthfulness. You put off stealing and put on generosity. You put off unwholesome conversation and replace it with speech and conversation that blesses others. Compassion, forgiveness and kindness replace backbiting and bitterness. You learn to love righteousness and hate wickedness even as Christ did. And remember, when you remove something, it must be replaced with something else. A void cannot exist in our lives. Good must replace the evil.

Have you noticed that we tend to emphasize in our lives those traits which seem most natural to our particular temperament? The fruit of the Spirit is not a matter of temperament; it is a result of Spirit led growth in all areas of one's life. Balance is the key principle we learn here, and balance is essential in our life. We can't overemphasize the outer man and his dress and not consider fully the inner man. Likewise, we can't say that Christianity is only an "inside matter," and not follow through with a Christ-like presence in the outer man.

Remember, too, that growth is progressive and is never finished. Some people who see themselves already as perfect do not understand this concept. Even near the end of Paul's life (Phil. 3:12), we find him "pressing on" toward Christlikeness. There is never a time that we can fall into self satisfaction. We are all "undone."

Some people also think of negative Christianity as a process of growing to be like Christ. They religiously become selfish, not loving. They embrace harshness instead of patience, greed not generosity, high self-love levels instead of esteeming others better than themselves. They are filled with pious hypocrisy. You can well be an expert on wickedness and not be righteous and holy yourself. Holiness is a state of character resulting from right actions, obedience and submission to Christ's will.

Practicing Christlikeness must be an everyday experience. The "Sunday Christian" will grow further and further away from Christ. We are to "die daily" to sin and be renewed in His Spirit. Concentrate on a high level of commitment in your dedication to Christ and the church and you can be the person YOU want to be as well as the one GOD desires for you to become. Put on Christ.

## PRAYER

We are taught in God's Word that prayer is the "life-line" to Heaven. It can be done in various ways — audibly or silently, standing or kneeling, in public or all alone.

As I communicate with our two pre-school children, I am led to think how feeble our prayers might seem to our Father. Those of us who are parents have experienced early communication with our young children when they are learning to put words together. Sometimes they have to repeat several times before we can understand what they are saying. We have to be very patient with them.

We have a very patient and understanding Intercessor with the Father. Many times we seem to have great and numerable items to lift up in prayer and we barely know how to express ourselves. We don't need to get overly anxious about it as, "Our Father knoweth what things we have need of, before we ask Him." Matt. 6:8.

Even though our prayers might seem quite child-like, "the Lord is nigh unto all them that call upon him, to all that call upon him in truth." Psalms 145:18.

In Christian love,  
Sister Karen Blocher  
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## LIVE AS YOU PRAY

I knelt to pray when day was done,  
And prayed, "O Lord, bless every one:  
Life from each saddened heart the pain,  
And let the sick be well again."

Then when I woke another day;  
And carelessly went on my way,  
The whole day long I did not try  
To wipe a tear from any eye.

I did not try to share the load  
Of any brother on my road.  
I did not even go to see  
The sick man just next door to me.

Yet once again when day was done  
I prayed, "O Lord, bless every one."  
But as I prayed, into my ear  
There came a voice that whispered clear:

"Pause, hypocrite, before you pray,  
Whom have you tried to bless today?  
God's sweetest blessings always go  
By hands that serve Him here below."

And then I hid my face and cried,  
"Forgive me, God, for I have lied;  
Let me but see another day  
And I will live the way I pray."

- Selected by Sister Eileen Broadwater

## RESURRECTION POWER

I Corinthians 15:55-57 "O death, where is thy sting? O grave, where is thy victory? The sting of death is sin; and the strength of sin is the law. But thanks be to God, which giveth us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ."

The Brethren, along with other orthodox Christians, gather together on Sunday to worship. We do this to celebrate the resurrection of Jesus Christ. In addition to this, with the exception of a few, whom we hold in deep respect, we set one Sunday aside to commemorate this glorious event. Like the other "Christian holidays" the world has laid claim to Easter (which is not mentioned in scripture as resurrection day) and made it into a time of bunny rabbits, fancy hats, and colored eggs. Perhaps we should refer to it as RESURRECTION DAY, rather than Easter.

From Peter's sermon following the event of Pentecost found in Acts chapter 2 and continuing throughout the New Testament the resurrection was a central theme. In I Corinthians 15:19-20 Paul put it this way, "If in this life only we have hope in Christ, we are of all men most miserable. But now is Christ risen from the dead, and become the firstfruits of them that slept."

In John 2:19 Jesus prophesied His resurrection. "Jesus answered and said unto them, Destroy this temple, and in three days I will raise it up." Then in verse 21 we read, "But he spake of the temple of his body." This was only one of the many times He spoke of the reality of His resurrection. We are saved by the shed blood of Jesus Christ but without the resurrection the death would have left Christ only a man, as humanists would make Him. Jesus Christ did not die a martyr but as the sinless Son of God who died for the sins of the world. Through the mystery of the Trinity, God died on the cross. To our mortal minds an impossible thing happened. God the Father was for a short period separated from God the Son. We can not fully comprehend or explain this mystery. We, personally, believe this is what Christ feared when He prayed, "Not my will but Thine be done," in the garden. We do not believe He desired to bypass the cross. We realize He

was human as well as God. But in John 10:17-18 we read, "Therefore doth my Father love me because I lay down my life, that I might take it again. No man taketh it from me, but I lay it down of myself. I have power to lay it down, and I have power to take it again. This commandment have I received of my Father." We can not reconcile these words with the idea that Christ desired to bypass the cross, if it was the Father's will. We hold those in love and respect who differ with us on this point.

Through the death and resurrection of Jesus Christ we have "victory through our Lord Jesus Christ" according to our opening verses. But it would seem as if some would deny this victory or resurrection power. We do not subscribe to sinless perfection in this life, although we admit that some verses would seem to teach this. (We will say more about this later.) But we also reject the teaching that we "are JUST sinners saved by grace." We read in Romans 6:1-4, "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin; that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we, that are dead to sin, live any longer therein? Know ye not, that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into his death? Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death: that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father, even so we also should walk in newness of life."

For those who argue that baptism has nothing to do with our salvation we will only say, The scriptures say it, (that we are saved in the act of baptism), I believe it, and that settles it! For those who have never experienced the immersion baptism Paul describes here, we would urge them to do so and leave them in the hands of God, who alone is the judge of our eternal destiny. Paul says that our baptism was symbolic of our death to sin. He states that as Christ was raised to the glory of the Father so should we walk in newness of life. Now if we are JUST sinners there is no difference between us and those who have never experienced this newness of life. But, Praise God, there IS a difference! He has given us the Holy Spirit to give us power. No longer do we have to try to reform ourselves. The popular saying, "We are all working for the same place," is unscriptural for more reasons than one.

Does this therefore mean we are without sin? In the eyes of God, if we continue in the faith, the answer is Yes! But in order to continue in the faith we must live in a spirit of repentance. When we decide we no longer need the blood of Christ or decide we can continue in sin we have departed from the faith. If we continue in the faith the blood of Christ removes all sin and we enjoy substitutionary perfection through Christ.

Brothers and sisters let us not grow weary in well doing but enjoy the victorious life we have in Christ through resurrection

power. If you have never experienced this newness of life we would urge you to do so. For the only alternative left is eternal death (suffering). As we have said before, Christ died for us, should we not be willing to live (the resurrected life) for Him!

James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

April 1, 1926

### A STORY OF ETERNAL INTEREST

D. D. Thomas

If you want to read a story that is good, I invite you to read the 16th chapter of Luke beginning at the 19th verse. It is not a very long story but it is chuck full of meaning and the plot is laid in two worlds. In one of these worlds it is told that there is a place of love and rest, and another of torment. Every word seems to strike the spot, and every moral is so nearly akin to us as to nestle to our souls, and the warming influence of its presence seems to make us every whit whole.

I have thought of the characters of this story with a great deal of interest. Here is a beggar who sought the ministration of his fellow mortal in vain. He sought the simple silent droppings of the crumbs from the table from which the other dined sumptuously, that they in a small measure might supply his wants. And to show how deep the wrong was, the story points out that the meanest of animal beings ministered to his wants most. And the towering human being thought only of himself.

The lot that came to them both is that they died. No clique or class or caste can insure one against that. It comes alike to all.

The rich man died and had a funeral in keeping with what the world thought was right. A great deal of ceremony was likely attendant upon it. Orations, gorgeous display, palaver, nonsense and whatnot. The show of his life is paraded as virtue, and we know not what more may be included in that expression "was buried."

It is simply stated that the poor man died and was carried by the angels into Abraham's bosom. No consideration was taken of the flesh. It was not stated that he was buried at all. Very few people likely knew that he had died. He lived mostly in the spiritual sphere. The real being is that with which angels deal. "The flesh profiteth nothing."

Mortal man is an heir to heaven through Jesus Christ. He lives with the hope of heaven and praises God for what he has done for him. And yet how strangely it appears that he is pictured here as neglecting his brother. The dogs without hope of whom it is

said that they "are without" the city, and yet they come to this man to administer to his healing. It is true that nature points us to a better way than the depraved mind of man does? Does the nature of animals help us more to our healing and life than the taste of man?

Here is a man with uplifted hands desiring to be fed, in an attitude of pleading, with the crumbs that fell from the table of luxury. But it is declared that this little was denied him. Creeping up from the jungles, out of the recesses of darkness comes some despised whelps to comfort him in this dark hour! What a picture we have to reflect on!

One of the great characteristics of the Master is that he came to the lowly. Although he came from heaven yet a man living in luxury is not one that he can reach. Naturally one would see he could only help those that depended upon him. "And the poor have the gospel preached unto them." He asks the favor of no one because of their means. The one that depends upon riches depends upon that which belongs to God. That makes it a sheer case of idolatry, and the apostle says that an idol is nothing.

The neglect of the poor beggar probably shortened his life. A neglect or an act whether or not has all the semblance of murder, if it shortens life by that means. It did not interfere with his spiritual interests, for no one could do that. He only asked the man to give him that which would prolong his physical life. He "fared sumptuously" and had plenty to spare, but he refused him that help. How God has wrought for us by giving us power to help our fellow man in distress! And yet so many times the privilege that God has given is spurned.

The crowning glory of the poor man was that he was wafted where love is in the home of the faithful. His helplessness seemed to be in the world but his heart was full of love. The rich man's life was wholly centered upon himself, and he forgot the interests of his father's family until it was too late. It is a poor place to begin to plead when the fires of hell have reached one. No need to wait until one rose from the dead. That would not actuate faith any sooner. One has already rose from the dead. There is no transportation between heaven and hell. The "great gulf fixed" hinders any from going one way or the other. The saving must be done by the blood of Jesus and the merits of our intercessor at the Father's right hand. I never read of an emigration out of the country where the soul goes. In the face of these laws rigid as they seem the whole scheme is one of great love. It is not an aristocratic circle that lets one in. Extreme poverty does not bar. Deep learning is no criterion. A knowledge of God is not limited to a collegiate curriculum. There is no condition that can bar us but our own wills. "Whosoever will let him take of the water of life freely."

## IF TEMPTATIONS SEEM TOO BIG TO RESIST

John Coblenz

Temptations come to us in many ways — ads, magazines, books, memories, the suggestions of friends and so forth. And sometimes in frustration we may wish we could box ourselves in, away from every outside influence.

And yet, that is not the whole picture of temptation.

The Bible says, "But every man is tempted, when he is drawn away of his own lust, and enticed. Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin: and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." James 1:14-15.

This shows us that temptation is not just a thing that comes from the outside in, but it really comes from the inside out.

In other words, the problem is not simply that I see something, but that I want something. My inner desire is what makes anything a temptation to me.

The root cause of people giving in, indulging, and becoming hooked on things they ought to leave alone is inside of them. Apart from God, we are spiritually dead, and in that condition, our desires become twisted giants to whom we readily yield when we have the chance.

"The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked: who can know it?" Jeremiah 17:9.

And therefore, the root cure needs to be inside as well.

When David repented of yielding to temptation, he prayed, "Create in me a clean heart, O God; and renew a right spirit within me." Psalm 51:10.

God's work on the inside of man begins with giving him a new spirit.

Jesus spoke of this as being born again. "Except a man be born again, he cannot see the kingdom of God... That which is born of the flesh is flesh; and that which is born of the spirit is spirit." John 3:3, 6.

The new birth makes us spiritually alive. And by this new life, the old twisted desires can be straightened out.

So then, "Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin; for his seed remaineth in him: and he cannot sin, because he is born of God." 1 John 3:9.

Does all this mean that Christians are never tempted?

No.

What it does mean is that those who are truly born of God receive His Holy Spirit within them. By the power of God's Holy Spirit, they can and do say, NO, to temptation.

They still have desires, but they satisfy those desires according to the direction of the Spirit of God.

"For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." Philippians 2:13.

### IF YOU ARE BORN AGAIN AND STILL STRUGGLE WITH TEMPTATION

Sometimes people say, "I've become a Christian, and I still yield to temptation. This just doesn't work for me."

Several things perhaps need to be clarified.

First of all, being born again is not something which "works." It is something which IS.

Those who "try" Christianity, likely never experience it, for God does not bargain with anyone. He does not give spiritual life to make things go better for us, or to make us feel better.

God gives spiritual life because by this He receives glory to His name. "That we should be to the praise of his glory, who first trusted in Christ." Ephesians 1:12.

What I am saying is that if we come to God for our own reasons, nothing "works."

But if we come to God because we have sinned against Him, if we are actually broken in penitence before Him, then God does exactly what He promises to do.

"For thus saith the high and lofty One that inhabiteth eternity, whose name is Holy; I dwell in the high and holy place, with him also that is of a contrite and humble spirit, to revive the spirit of the humble, and to revive the heart of the contrite ones." Isaiah 57:15.

Secondly, then, Christians are sometimes frustrated with particular temptations because they do not understand the power of obedience.

Many people today have the idea that temptation is to be fought. So they struggle. The more they struggle, the more they find themselves falling.

Then they say, "I need power. I'm a defeated Christian."

In reality, God speaks much more about obedience than about victory. When we face temptation, the question is not whether we will overcome the temptation, but whether we will obey God.

We need to yield our will to God's will.

Obedience is a matter of choice.

Obedience is also the secret of power. The more I choose to obey God, the stronger I become spiritually.

As the Apostle Paul said, "Neither yield ye your members as instruments of unrighteousness unto sin: but yield yourselves unto God, as those that are alive from the dead, and your members as instruments of righteousness unto God. For sin shall not have dominion over you." Romans 6:13-14.

If you are a Christian and are struggling with temptation, begin to obey God. It is not a matter of how you feel or how big the temptation is, but of whether you will obey God.

God will likely allow you to struggle... until you are willing to obey. And then He will back you with His power immeasurable.

"For it is God which worketh in you both to will and to do of his good pleasure." Philippians 2:13.

Selected by Sister Edith Moss



## FIGHTING THE GOOD FIGHT OF FAITH

"For we wrestle not against flesh and blood, but against principalities, against powers, against the rulers of the darkness of this world, against spiritual wickedness in high places." Ephesians 6:12.

Those of us who have made our calling and election sure have been made soldiers in the greatest battle of all time. Before conversion, we knew little of the spiritual conflicts of this world. We were footloose and fancy-free, without care for our soul, until Holy Ghost conviction came upon us. Then came the warfare. That warfare will continue until the Lord calls us to the better home, or cease if we yield to the devil and his deadly poison. Timothy is admonished to "Fight the good fight of faith, lay hold of eternal life, whereunto thou art also called, and hast professed a good profession before many witnesses." I Tim. 6:12. The battle is a daily one. Do not think because you are a member of a church and say a prayer at mealtime you are doing all you can do. It takes a lot of prayer, a lot of soul-searching, and a lot of study in God's Word to lay hold on eternal life. In saying this we are not taking away from the finished work of Jesus Christ, because we could not save ourselves. I thank God for His Son: Because of Him I am able to say that Heaven is my home. But once we have taken Christ as our Saviour He prepares us for war against the enemy of our soul. It seems that the devil is out to win our soul back to him. Therefore, we must arm ourselves with spiritual armor: The Word of God must be in us; we must have faith in what He has promised; we must talk much with Him in prayer. We must also tell others of this wonderful salvation and invite others to be saved. In doing these things we will defeat the enemy and march triumphantly into that place prepared for us above.

Brother Lynn H. Miller

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

Man, the Highest Type

J. H. Moore

Contrasting man with the works of God's hands, as displayed in the heavenly bodies, the Psalmist says: "What is man, that thou art mindful of him? ... For thou hast made him a little lower than the angels, and hast crowned him with glory and honor" (Psa. 8:4-5). There are three orders of intelligence. First, the Deity. To this order belongs the Father, the Son and the Holy Ghost. They have the supervision over the entire universe and direct every movement. Second, the angels. These are God's celestial messengers, and there may be millions of them. In their work they are not limited by space or conditions, but can be sent to any part of God's domain. Third, comes man, made a little lower than the angels, and also created to serve God's purpose on earth. In his famous address on Mars' Hill, Paul referred to man as "the offspring of God" (Acts 18:29). Well may man be recognized as the crowning piece of God's work, the highest type of creation, made in the likeness and image of God, and capable of the highest order of soul and intellectual culture. Since man occupies a position just a little lower than the angels, since he is the offspring of God, and made in the likeness and image of the Deity, it is no wonder that the great Father should be so thoroughly interested in his welfare and destiny.

## OBITUARY

HARVEY RUFF

Bro. Harvey Ruff was born on October 28, 1910 in Redfield, Kansas. He passed away on January 4, 1986 at the age of 75 years, 2 months and 7 days. He was the son of Elmer and Emma Ruff.

Harvey was baptized into the Dunkard Brethren Church in 1928, and lived faithful until death.

He is survived by his loving wife Sylvia and two daughters, Carol Walker of Hughson, California and Shirley Wampler of Ceres, California. Also one granddaughter and five grandsons, and two great-grandsons.

He was known and loved by many relatives and friends. He will be remembered by his faithfulness and kind things he did and gave to others.

## NEWS ITEMS

### GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Lord willing the Grandview Congregation plans to have their Spring Lovefeast and communion on Saturday, April 26. We will also have services on Sunday, the 27th, morning and afternoon. We invite those near and far to share this special time with us.

May God bless you as one of His laborers.

Sister Mary Lou Kasza, Cor.

### WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lord willing, the Waynesboro Congregation is planning a Lovefeast service on Sunday, May 4. We invite all who can to come and worship with us.

Sister Wilma Eberly, Cor.

### McCLAVE, COLORADO

The McClave Congregation of the Dunkard Brethren Church plans a weekend Lovefeast meeting on May 10-11, 1986. Preaching will begin at 11:00 A.M. Saturday and continue through Sunday, with Lovefeast being Saturday evening.

We would love to have you all come. Please remember us in prayer, as we strive to please Him.

Sister Rhonda Snyder, Cor.

## TIME IS RUNNING OUT

The average age of the world's great civilizations has been two hundred years. These nations progressed through this sequence:

- From Bondage to Spiritual Faith
- From Spiritual Faith to Great Courage
- From Courage to Liberty
- From Liberty to Abundance
- From Abundance to Selfishness
- From Selfishness to Complacency
- From Complacency to Apathy
- From Apathy to Dependency
- From Dependency back again into Bondage

- Selected by Brother Lynn H. Miller

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(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

APRIL 15, 1986

NO. 8

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## WHO WILL SERVE?

Who will serve their Lord and Saviour?

Who will come to Him today?

Who will change their way of living,

Walk with Him the narrow way?

He will give you Christian graces,

Faith, hope, knowledge and virtue,

Godliness, with lots of patience,

And kindness in all you do.

When you have the love of Jesus

Peace and joy in you abide,

And His love will grow within you

As you walk close to His side.

Who will come and follow Jesus

In the strait and narrow way?

When you come, your soul He will save

From death, hell, and from the grave.

Sister Irene Stout  
R. 1 Box 160, Wabash, IN 46992

## PURE RELIGION

We want our food to be pure and untainted. We not only want it clean, but uncontaminated by harmful chemicals or other substances. There are several governmental agencies given the responsibility of testing and policing these items so we can be sure they are pure. Even so there have been various products tainted. They have caused serious injuries and even deaths. Their supposed purity was destroyed and they became dangerous rather than beneficial.

Pure religion, true Christianity, can be in a sense compared to pure foods which are beneficial to us. Just as that pure food is life-giving to our physical bodies so pure religion is life-giving to the soul. We do not knowingly partake of tainted food that might lead to our deaths, so we should be careful that our religion is pure and true so it does not harm our souls. We have to be very careful about our religion for there are many which seek to allure us but all are not pure. Tainted foods may look, smell and taste the same as the pure but by their very sameness they become dangerous and deadly. False religions, whether called cults, religions or churches, may appear safe but be dangerous and deadly. As tragic as a physical death is, a worse tragedy is Spiritual death, which is eternal. There may be many beneficial teachings among these impure religions but their good will not overcome their errors any more than the good food in a pail of garbage will make it appealing and nutritious.

James gives some direction in considering what pure religion is. James 1:27, "Pure religion and undefiled before God and the Father is this. To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction."

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

APRIL 15, 1986

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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and to keep himself unspotted from the world." What is pure is pleasing to God. God has a desire for that which is undefiled. He does not want the soiled and abused. He wants the best. The Lamb of God was perfect without blemish or spot. The Bible tells us of the pure robes of the righteous in Heaven. The sacrifices of the Old Testament were to be perfect. He was never pleased with less than the best available. He has always given the best and He demands the best we can give.

James speaks of the service He expects of us. The first service expressed is "To visit the fatherless and widows in their affliction." This duty might well be expanded to other deeds of a similar nature. In fact for some these social deeds have become the whole focus of their religion. The "social gospel" may make a valid attempt at helping others in their needs, physical, political or cultural but the Spiritual need is subverted. The blood of Jesus, the commandments of the Bible and personal Spiritual rebirth are ignored or down played. The social issues become of utmost importance and energies are used to create a "better world" through human effort. Through programs, activities, recreation and politics a better world is sought to be produced. The needs of the hearts of men are not considered, only the social needs. Visiting the sick, helping the poor, comforting the sorrowing and many other good deeds are necessary to have a pure religion, but the sum and substance of pure religion is greater than the needs of the physical man.

Beyond the social aspects of a pure religion is the injunction, "to keep himself unspotted from the world." Merely helping others is not enough, though certainly commendable. There must be a separation from the world. First there must be a decided choice to accept Jesus as the Son of God who came from Heaven with a saving Gospel secured both through His teaching and His sacrifice on Calvary. The one seeking pure religion must identify with Christ thus separating himself from Satan, the god of this world. Second there must be a continual separation from the world's ways, styles and desires. There is an effort demanded to stay away from these activities that contaminate the Christian. The enemy of our souls will seek many ways to gain an entrance into our lives that he might draw us away from the unspotted condition desired by God.

Pleasing God, helping others and living a separated life are all parts of a pure religion. Each part needs the support of the other parts. Just believing in God is not enough, for even the devils believe and tremble. Promoting social programs will not make us a true Christian by itself. A miserly, monkish, self centered, separated life also will fail to provide the kind of religion that God desires in each of us.

Just as we desire pure, untainted natural food for our bodies so we should strive to have the pure religion that will nourish our Spiritual lives. Avoid junk food, poisoned food, tainted food to be healthy physically. Desire and strive to have true Christianity for the health of the soul.

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

"the position of women in public worship"

### AN EXPLANATION OF I TIMOTHY 2:12 and I CORINTHIANS 14:34.

The woman is admonished in these scriptures to "keep silence in the churches," and not "to teach nor usurp authority over them" (men) relative to the worship service.

The rule for silence for women in the worship service is an explicit and positive teaching. It is not ambiguously stated and there should be no difference of opinion in regard to its meaning. The communication constituting public teaching was given to the man as his responsibility. The I Corinthians scripture would indicate that the women were not to teach the people or to interrupt those who were speaking in the Church. This rule prohibits a woman from conducting devotions in the assembled Body, even if a claim of inspiration is made. It does not refer just to the action of public preaching but it would be true at any time when a congregation is assembled for public worship. This is not to be considered as to making the woman a "second class citizen" in the worship situation, but because of her spirit of modesty, humility and submission, her desire is not for public teaching.

The Bible does not indicate that the head covering of the woman gives her authority to teach or preach before the congregation. It does show a proper understanding of the Godhead or an understanding of modesty and of subordination. It is emblematic of the recognition of the Christian hierarchy. It is not only symbolic to humanity but it is also a sign to the angelic realm who are witnessing their public worship.

We live in a time when the female segment of our population is not satisfied with their God ordained roles in womanhood and instead they desire to project themselves into positions outside of Biblical authorization. In addition, extravagant personal adornment and a fashionable lifestyle of excesses is making them a distraction to other worshipers. In fact, these factors work together... to be heard in speaking... and to be seen in visually demanding dress.

In the I Timothy lesson, we find it written in the individualizing

singular form. The woman, as a silent learner, would be yielding in subjection to the authority of God. "Learn" is a present tense imperative word illustrating an attitude of being taught to grow spiritually and to advance in holiness. Am I indicating that Christian women should just surrender their minds to emptiness or to the dictates of others? No! I am illustrating that her quietness is God ordained and is also an example to young women relative to learning subjection and exercising a beautiful spirit. In general, the Bible has elevated the woman to a very high position of spiritual equality with the man before God but this elevation is not applicable relative to teaching and authority in the assembly.

"To Teach" as a present infinitive relates that this is not confined to a single act of submission but would be the assumed position routinely in the worship service. "To have dominion over" is an infinitive showing a desire or action of assuming public teaching of a congregation.

The word man (aner) in our text is a distinctive word distinguishing the sexes as to their responsibilities. A woman can not place herself in the position of the man without violating the word she says she believes and is working to obey.

There is no indication in these texts that Paul is considering instruction in the classroom situation. We would understand, however, that males at the age of accountability should be taught by men to fulfill the context of the teaching.

In addition to the foregoing conclusions, in I Timothy 2:8, we learn from the Apostle Paul that it is men (tous andras) who are to pray in the public worship service. The word "pray" is a present tense word indicating it to be a routine practice in worship. Its wording pointedly illustrates men as distinguished from women (thelus) are to lead in the public prayer.

New Testament teachings illustrate a valid and indispensable ministry for women as a part of the Body without trespassing against the position reserved for the men in the church. We find in Titus 2:3-4 that there is an important ministry for the sisters in teaching other women and children. It was proper, too, for Priscilla to help her husband in teaching Apollos to know the way of the Lord more completely. (Acts 18:26) Again, this was not in the formal worship service. Finally, Euodia and Syntyche had laboured with Paul in working for the Kingdom, but there is no inference to the fact that they preached in that situation. (Phil. 4:2-3)

It may be concluded that God has appointed man to lead and instruct in the church and it is improper for a woman to assume that responsibility upon herself. Paul teaches us that there is something special about the feminine character which will be

enhanced as she finds fulfillment and satisfaction in her God given role in the church.

Brother Leonard Wertz

## BREATHING ROOM

"Did you ever consider that sometimes your life looks like this when you leave no space for God in your life, it frequently becomes very jumbled, run together, and difficult to sort out." The preceding thoughts were part of a little clipping entitled "Be Sure To Read This." Following is more of the clipping, with spacing and punctuation added for ease in reading.

"Did you ever consider that sometimes your life looks like this? When you leave no space for God in your life, it frequently becomes very jumbled, run together, and difficult to sort out. If you have taken time to decipher this little note, consider spending an equal amount on something very useful — your relationship with God. That could turn out to change your life, or at the very least give it some breathing room." (Anon.)

Breathing room — time for one's self in which to be refreshed — is needed by all. Many take time for self-indulgence, but that is not giving yourself breathing room. In fact, it only increases the pressure on you. Sin brings further bondage, not freedom and refreshment of spirit. Self-indulgence is never satisfying, but continually desires further thrills to fill the emptiness. Breathing room, refreshment of soul and of mind — how pleased it is by comparison!

Life at its best is often "jumbled and run together", just as the words in that clipping. It is difficult to set a pace which allows some relaxation, yet we need to allow for it. Jesus took time away from the demands of the crowds and so must we. We can be crowded by people's demands, by continual activity, or tasks to be completed, and so forth. But no matter what causes the demands, a time away from them is needful. A hectic schedule can cheat us out of time for spiritual refreshing and feeding our souls, and it's up to us to prevent this. We must simply make breathing room, if there is none otherwise.

"Great multitudes came together to hear, and to be healed by him of their infirmities. And he withdrew himself into the wilderness, and prayed." Luke 5:15-16. Many people wanted help from Jesus. They wanted to hear what He had to say, and they wanted Him to heal them. All of this was important, but it was also important for Jesus to get away from them for awhile. It was a very demanding life, and even though Jesus was divine, He needed time to pray and be refreshed. Jesus encouraged His disciples to do the same.

"Come ye yourselves apart into a desert place, and rest awhile: for there were many coming and going, and they had no leisure so much as to eat." Mark 6:31. Does this ever happen to you? There are so many demands and interruptions that you can't even eat a meal in peace. You feel pressured and pushed, and still can't keep up. Then is when Jesus says to you, "Come apart and rest, come apart and commune with Me, or you may simply come apart!"

"And in the morning, rising up a great while before day, he went out, and departed into a solitary place, and there prayed." Mark 1:35. Jesus made sure He had breathing room — time alone with God, even though it meant getting up while others were asleep. We often have trouble getting up when we must, but we would find it helpful to set aside some early morning time for spiritual refreshing. Even a short time given to communing with God can give us greater strength for the day. Before the day's activities begin crowding our thoughts, we need time alone with God.

Jesus made breathing room in His life on earth at various times of the day. In Mark 1:35, it was in the very early morning. In Mark 6:46-47, it was evening. Whatever time of day is best for you, be sure you take that time. "They took knowledge of them that they had been with Jesus." Acts 4:13. The more we are with Jesus in the quietness of our hearts, the more it will be evident in our lives. We must have some breathing room in order to be what God wants us to be, and we should plan for some quality time, not just the leftover time.

Another reason breathing room is needed is so we can intercede for others. Jesus is yet making intercession for us (see Rom. 8:34), and we need to intercede for others. So many of our activities are concerned with this life, and such matters can wait, but spiritual needs cannot. We must be sure we don't allow our daily activities to crowd out intercessory prayer, or any other kind of prayer, as it is our spiritual lifeline.

If there's no breathing room, there's no quietness of soul, no real rest and relaxation. If there's no breathing room, there's no stability in Christ, no time to really serve God. There's no time to commune with God, to be really close to Him, unless we have sufficient breathing room. Too much "busy-ness" interferes without time to think and concentrate on that which is really valuable. "Be still and know that I am God" (Psa. 46:10) is a reminder to us to be quiet, and give ourselves time to breathe.

"Thou wilt keep him in perfect peace, whose mind is stayed on thee: because he trusteth in thee." Isa. 26:3. Having adequate breathing room allows us to concentrate on the Lord. We have time to learn to trust Him for all things. Being able to trust brings God's peace to our hearts and souls, a peace which calms us and

keeps us at rest in Jesus. "And the peace of God, which passeth all understanding, shall keep your hearts and minds through Christ Jesus." Phil. 4:7. Breathing room — our quiet time with God — is where we find peace and rest. Have you made time in your life for God?

Sister Eileen Broadwater  
R. 1, Pioneer, OH 43554

### THE REFINER'S FIRE

He sat by a fire of seven fold heat,  
As He watched by the precious ore,  
And closer He bent with a searching gaze,  
As He heated it more and more.

He knew He had ore that could stand the test,  
And He wanted the finest gold,  
To mould as a crown for the King to wear,  
Set with gems with a price untold.

So He laid our gold in the burning fire,  
Though we fain would have said Him "Nay."  
And He watched the dross that we had not seen,  
And it melted and passed away.

And the gold grew brighter and yet more bright  
But our eyes were so dim with tears,  
We saw but the fire — not the Master's hand,  
And questioned with anxious fears.

Yet our gold shone out with a richer glow  
As it mirrored a Form above,  
That bent o'er the fire, tho' unseen by us,  
With a look of ineffable love.

Can we think that it pleases His loving heart  
To cause us a moment of pain?  
Ah, no! but He saw through the present cross  
The bliss of Eternal gain.

So He waited there with a watchful eye,  
With a love that is strong and sure,  
And His gold did not suffer a bit more heat  
Than was NEEDED to make it pure.

"And He shall sit as a refiner and purifier of silver:... Malachi 3:3.  
Selected by Sister Emma W. Stauffer

## IS CHRIST OUR PATTERN?

We have the record of Christ's life in the New Testament. He taught by example and precept and said we shall do as He has done. He said, "Come unto me all ye that are weary and heavy laden and I will give you rest." Are we following the example He has set for us to become the children of God?

He suffered the cruel death on the cross and died for our redemption, the just for the unjust that He might bring us unto God. He loved little children and bid them come unto Him. There is a song that says,

Jesus loves me this I know,  
For the Bible tells me so,  
Little ones to Him belong,  
They are weak but He is strong.

Those who accept abortion have no love for children having given heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils. The true Christian will take no part in the evils of the world, especially when it comes to the destruction of human life.

Christ is the author of Christianity, love and peace. He said, "My peace I give unto you my peace I leave with you. Not as the world giveth give I unto you." What the world gives may be suddenly destroyed. Satan is the author of envy, hatred and carnal strife and the busyboding into other people's matters.

The true Christians are converted from all evil and born into the kingdom of God. Through Christ we can receive love that leads to eternal peace that the world can never give. Christ, when speaking to the Heavenly Father, said, "Not my will but thine be done." The word "Christian" means to be Christ-like. Are we a Christian example to others? Are we among those who are the true children of God so we can, like the Apostle Paul, look forward to the greatest blessing — The Crown of Life?

Some times we hear the words, "America the beautiful." It is nothing compared with what is awaiting those who live Godly in Christ Jesus.

Have we made Christ our pattern? Many have gone astray and are not aware of it in these perilous times. We need the whole armour of God to stand against the wiles of the devil. Little deeds of kindness and words of love help to make this world a better place to live. Christ's example will always lead us in the way of truth and righteousness.

The way of the cross leads Home. It is sweet to know as we onward go that Christ will go with us through the valley and shadow of death. We need fear no evil.

The last thing Christ told His disciples before He ascended into

Heaven was, "to go ye therefore into all the world and preach the gospel baptizing them in the name of the father, son and holy ghost, teaching them to observe all things I have commanded you." It is important that in the teaching and observance of all things to make Him our pattern. It gives us His promise to be with us always till the end of the world.

Today we have many who will teach otherwise than the true and wholesome words and are astray from the path of truth and righteousness and some day will reap from the seed they are sowing. Christ wants us to be faithful to Him so we can spend the ceaseless ages of eternity with Him. The Apostle Paul continued to look forward to the Crown of Life. This may have helped him to be a strong and brave soldier of the Cross of Christ as he endured the hardships in his pathway. Today we have many professing Christians including so called Church leaders who ignore many of the plain teachings of Christ.

Must Jesus bear the Cross alone and all the world go free? Christ's coming was as the meek and lowly lamb of God. Have we made Him our pattern?

Brother J. F. Marks  
5225 Sundial Loop  
Plant City, FL 33566

## FALSE CONVERTS

Matthew 23:15, "Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye compass sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made, ye make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves."

These strong words of denunciation come from the lips of our meek and lowly Savior and Lord, Jesus Christ. Why has the large majority of the earthly church in contrast refused to speak out against false teachers? Jesus Christ is the greatest symbol of love there is. But He made it clear that true love is not afraid to speak out against falsehood.

First of all let us see who Jesus was addressing His statement to. According to our Bible dictionary the scribes were "a class of learned men who made the systematic study of the law and its exposition their professional occupation." According to this source the Pharisees "were by far the most influential" when comparing them with the Sadducees and Essenes. It is believed that this group came out of the Maccabean Revolt although this can not be proven with certainty. The name in its Semitic form means "the separated ones, separatists." "They were also known as chasidim, meaning 'loved of God or loyal to God.' "

Looking at these two groups from the perspective of the previous

definitions we would think that they would be individuals who should be looked up to. Both of these groups were very religious. They also professed to be upholding the truth that was handed down by God. They were, in fact, not "bad" people. Their outward actions, in most cases it seems, were beyond fault. Yet our Lord called them hypocrites. He gives several clear reasons why they are suited for this title. One of these is found in verses 26 and 27. "Thou blind Pharisee, cleanse first that which is within the cup and platter, that the outside of them may be clean also. Woe unto you, scribes and Pharisees, hypocrites! for ye are like unto whitened sepulchres, which indeed appear beautiful outward, but are within full of dead men's bones, and of all uncleanness." There are those today who claim to be special people of God. But like the scribes and Pharisees they add man's theories to God's Holy Word. Like these two groups they also reject the Lord Jesus Christ as the only means of salvation. They spend their time trying to disprove such Biblical doctrines as the Trinity, the deity of Jesus Christ, and the existence of eternal punishment. These individuals are gaining many converts and "make him twofold more the child of hell than yourselves."

But the subject does not end here. It becomes increasingly difficult to decide who is a true believer and who is making false converts. There is such a mixture of truth and error in our day that our wisdom fails us when we try to sort it out. We have long proclaimed that the Bible is the Word of God and in most instances needs no interpretation but means exactly what it says. We still hold to this statement. But more and more we realize that others are making a similar statement but hold views that are miles apart from what we believe. There are some subjects we wish to make further study on in the near future such as "praising God for all things." We are not convinced that God wishes us to praise Him for broken marriages, apostate churches, the death of a spouse, and other similar circumstances. Many claim to believe the whole Word of God yet speak against nonresistance, non-conformity, and baptism as necessary for our salvation as understood by our Brethren forefathers. It is no wonder that some have labeled us Pharisees. According to the article referred to earlier in the Bible dictionary this group wore distinctive garb. Does this mean that our Brethren forefathers were wrong in adopting this practice? We do not believe so and choose to wear the "plain suit" even today when it is becoming less and less popular. We believe this practice has become vindicated by studying those groups who have set this practice aside. The vast majority of them now allow immodest dress, cut hair, and the wearing of jewelry. The last item seems especially hypocritical when you examine their emphasis on using our worldly goods to help others. It would do us well to heed their

warning on personal greed, but we can not reconcile this with hanging jewelry from our necks and covering our hands!

There is also emphasis on certain portions of scripture but ignoring other scriptures that provide a balance. One example of this is the subjects of woman preachers. The same Paul who stated in Galatians 3:28 "... there is neither male nor female..." tells us in I Timothy 2:12 "But I suffer not a woman to teach, (original teach with authority, or preach), not to unsurp authority over the man, but to be in silence." Paul then backs up his argument from Creation theology or headship theology. The modern day teaching on women preachers comes from evolutionary theology.

While these modernists are not making very many converts from those in the world they are making many converts of those within the earthly church. Their popular sayings, which they repeat over and over, start to sound good to "itching ears." This is why we need to speak out against false teaching over and over.

May our desire be to make true converts for our Lord and Savior. Let each of us examine our hearts and be sure we are not "scribes and Pharisees." We must be careful in judging others who do not do exactly as we do. We must allow God to be the final judge of all individuals. If you have not accepted Jesus Christ as your Lord and Savior you are now judged to spend eternity in Hell. By accepting Him and His Word you can enjoy a home in Heaven.

James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

### GOD'S REVELATION TO MAN

J. H. Moore

Considering the relation that man sustains to his Maker, and his marvelous possibilities, it is inconceivable that he should have been left without some kind of a revelation, to guide him in his search after spiritual light and the better way of living. After making man in his own likeness and image, God would no more think of leaving him to grope his way in darkness, than a kind and loving earthly father would think of leaving his helpless child without food or clothing. For his temporal aid, God has given man the light of the sun, nourishment for his craving appetite, and material from which to make clothing for his bodily comfort. Without a revelation to supply the yearnings of his soul, the work of the Creator would be incomplete. We can not think of such a neglect, and it is but proper that we should look about us for a revelation that bears the stamp of the Divine.

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

April 15, 1926

### FENCES

B. E. Kesler

Some time ago we were riding on a train when we heard the sharp blasts indicating that there was stock on the track. The train stopped and when we looked out of the window we saw cattle getting through a wire fence and back into the pasture from which they had broken out and gotten on the track. That is, all but one went back. That one was lying in the ditch, dead.

And then we thought of the purpose of fences. Why do we have them? There are two reasons; one is that fences keep our own stock at home, and the other is that they keep out of our pastures the stock of other people.

But in some respects animals are like human beings, and one of the resemblances is that neither class likes restraints. An animal will break through a fence and get outside even when there is better feed and water inside than outside. The animals are not supposed to have the same knowledge of risks and results that man has, and so it is not so strange that they will break out and are often killed because they are out on the highway where they have no business.

We do not have fences for men unless they are defective and need protection or are dangerous and other men need to be protected from them. We do have restraints, though, and we have them because men will not do right. The law follows crime: the law against murder was made because men murdered other men; the same is true of our laws against stealing and so forth. These laws are a kind of fence to keep men where they belong; and it would probably be difficult to find an honest man who does not know that men are better off when they obey the laws.

And then we have another fence, other laws. These were made by the Lord, and the only reason for making them was that man might be protected and might be useful and happy in this life and prepare himself for greater happiness in the life which is to follow this one. Men are just as much inclined to break these laws as they are to break the manmade laws. They are carried away by their lusts and do the things which they know they should not do. And they do these things in spite of what they see of other men who did the same things and suffered for doing. They do not seem to care what happens to them in this world or the next, provided they can have their own way. They are missing the best things in this world, and will miss infinitely more in the next.

Both human and divine laws are made for the benefit of man, and there is not a law that will interfere with the man who desires to do what is right. And yet we have criminals by the thousand. Every state, every county, every city has its prison, and in so many places the prisons are full to overflowing. It seems strange that man has become so perverted that he is not willing to obey the laws and to respect the rights of other men. It seems stranger that man should refuse to obey the divine law, the one given by the Creator, and which has in it nothing of the imperfections that sometimes creep into human laws. But so it is, so it has been, and so it will continue to be until the end of time.

Man in general finds it more easy to follow in ways of vice than in ways of virtue, which is due to the fact that his nature has been so greatly changed that he is far from being what his Maker intended him to be. And the only way in which he can regain what he has lost is by full obedience to the law which was given us by the Son, who loved us and gave Himself for us. But this law does not receive the attention it once did, nor anything like the attention it should. Full obedience to divine law is rarely urged in these days even from the pulpit; and from this fact we must conclude that it is not believed as it should be by those who occupy the pulpits.

This divine law is a fence for us, a protection against evil that would otherwise have free access to us. But if we will not heed the law, if we will not remain where the Lord wishes us to be, that is apart from the evil world, we do not get the benefit it was intended to give us. The loss is all ours when we break through the fence.

It is not surprising that worldly people will not be kept in by the divine law, but it is very sad that those who have professed to believe on the Lord go everywhere and do everything that the people of the world do. So doing, they are not true to the Master whom they professed to accept and to whom they promised obedience.

The Lord's fence is intended to keep us from evil and to keep evil from us. Inside that fence we dwell in perfect safety, outside it there is no safety, no promise of His keeping us from evil. And He has left us free to stay in or go out, after telling us repeatedly what will come to us in the place we choose to remain. How can we hesitate as to the position we should occupy? What can we gain on the outside that will compensate for the loss we suffer by not being on the inside? It is the old question, "What shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"



Many dig their grave with a knife and fork.

## WHAT SHALL IT BE?

Out of this life I shall never take  
 Things of silver and gold I make.  
 All that I cherish and hoard away,  
 After I leave, on this earth must stay.

Though I have toiled for a painting rare  
 To hang on the wall, I must leave it there.  
 Though I call it mine, and boast its worth,  
 I must give it up when I leave this earth.

All that I gather, and all that I keep,  
 I must leave behind when I fall asleep.  
 And I often wonder what I shall own  
 In that other life when I pass alone.

What shall they find, and what shall they see,  
 In the soul that answers the call for me?  
 Shall the Great Judge learn, when my task is through,  
 That my Spirit has gathered some riches, too?  
 Or shall at last it be mine to find  
 That all I'd worked for I'd left behind?

- Anonymous

Selected by Sister Karen Blocher

## NEWS ITEMS

### WEST FULTON, OHIO

The West Fulton Congregation is planning, the Lord willing, a Lovefeast Saturday, May 17. Services will begin at 11 A.M. with the Lovefeast proper at 7:30 P.M. All are welcome. Come and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Carolyn Carpenter, Cor.

### LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

The Lititz Congregation plans to have Lovefeast, May 18. Come and worship with us.

Sister Dorcas Myers, Cor.

### NOTICE

All business for General Conference should be in the hands of the writing clerk of General Conference by April 25, 1986. Thank you.

Brother Ray R. Reed  
 Box 12  
 Dallas Center, Iowa 50063

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR MAY 1986**

May 4 - The True Witness - Titus 1:1-16.

1. What does verse 1 tell us about Paul? Who was his Master?
2. To whom was the letter written? and for what purpose?

May 11 - Mothers Day - Luke 1:26-60.

1. In verse 39 what is the attitude of Mary toward the angel's message?
2. In Prov. 31 we have a picture of what a true Mother is like.

May 18 - Sound Doctrine - Titus 2:1-15.

1. What instruction does Paul give Titus and the church about doctrine?
2. What do we understand in the teaching of doctrine?

May 25 - Justified by Grace - Titus 3:1-15.

1. In Eph. 2:8-10 gives us light on salvation by grace.
2. What part does works have in our Spiritual walk of life?

**YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS  
FOR MAY 1986**

May 4 - Accountability - Luke 16:19-31; Ezek. 18:20; Rom. 14:12.

1. For what and whom was the rich man living?
2. What part of the rich man's life went along to the eternal world?

May 11 - Mothers - Ruth 1:1-22.

1. What kind of example did Naomi give to her son's wives?
2. What two great individuals descended from Ruth?

May 18 - The Parable of the Wheat and Tares - Matt. 13:24-43.

1. Were the tares in the wheat a cause of neglect?
2. Were the tares and the wheat harvested together?
3. Why were they permitted to grow together until the harvest?

May 25 - The Temptation of Christ - Luke 4:1-19.

1. When does temptation come to individuals? When we are weak or strong?
2. Does God tempt us? Or does it come from another source?  
James 1:13-15.

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

MAY 1, 1986

NO. 9

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## WHICH LOVED HER BEST?

"I love you, Mother," said little John,  
Then forgetting work, his cap went on,  
And he was off to the garden swing,  
Leaving his mother the wood to bring.

"I love you, Mother," said rosy Nell,  
"I love you better than tongue can tell."  
Then she teased and pouted full half the day,  
Till her mother rejoiced when she went to play.

"I love you, Mother," said little Fan;  
"Today I'll help you all I can;  
How glad I am that school doesn't keep!  
So she rocked the babe till it fell asleep.

Then stepping softly, she took the broom,  
And swept the floor and dusted the room.  
Busy and happy all day was she,  
Helpful and cheerful as child can be.

"I love, Mother," again they said,  
Three little children going to bed;  
How do you think that mother guessed  
Which of them really loved her best?

- Author Unknown

## THEY CALL HER BLESSED

Proverbs 31:28, "Her children arise up, and call her blessed; her husband also, and he praiseth her."

There are many politicians, authors, artists and others who would love to have the honor and praise that is so freely given mothers. Mothers have not sought these honors, but they have been freely given them. Those following worldly occupations do many deeds so they might garner some little bit of the same kind of attention from their fellows.

Mothers, of course, do not gain that honor by inaction and inattention to their motherly duties. While both father and mother have their part in the conception and birth of a child, it is the mother who must pass through the "valley of the shadow of death" to bring that child to birth. She is due honor just for that extraordinary feat. Her body must bear many discomforts during pregnancy and must bear many pains and sufferings during labor and delivery. Many mothers have given their lives to bring their children into the world. There are other physical discomforts the mother must face in nursing and caring for her newborn. She must endure interrupted sleep and discomfort in caring for that child.

Mother's honor, though, does not come merely because of her physical activity. To bear a child does not automatically mean a woman is due a true mother's honor. Some have borne children with unholy attitudes and for unholy purposes. They have undertaken the task unwillingly and, perhaps, unwittingly. Raising a child demands a diligence of mind and spirit that goes beyond the physical travail of giving birth.

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

MAY 1, 1986

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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A mother bears a great responsibility in the molding of the child. His attitudes, personality and diligence may be largely fashioned by her training. Her own attitudes may overwhelm the lessons that she gives by word. Her respect toward her husband can shape how her children grow up with respect for their parents and assume their proper roles in their own future homes. She may instill in them the right feelings toward God and the Church. There are so many ways, she influences her children. She can influence their natural lives. Her example will influence her children's choices of lifemates, occupations and recreations. She will also have an influence upon their Spiritual lives. With that influence she may very well help to determine their eternal destiny.

Mother certainly carries a large responsibility in bearing and raising her family. If she has performed her duty well, she will reap the plaudits of her children as they mature and realize what effort she has bestowed upon them. If she has failed to fulfill all her duties, they can at least honor her for the danger she faced in bringing them into the world.

Not only will children call her blessed, but her husband also honors her. It is often said that parents, who wish to show their children love and how to love, do so best by loving and respecting each other. Mothers can do so much to foster the proper attitude and order in the home.

The attitude the wife shows outside the home also can be either helpful or hurtful. If she is disrespectful of her husband when away from him, she will harm his position before his co-workers, community and children. She may damage his reputation through light chatter that reflects upon him.

The wife who respects her husband in all of her deeds and attitudes will be doing not only him but herself a large favor. Such a wife and mother, as described by the Wise Man, will be readily praised by her husband. Husbands, who do not realize or appreciate what such wives do for them, are lacking in proper concern for their wives. For them to speak lightly or jestingly of their wives is to betray an absence of true character. The Wise Man says that the husband of such a wife will call her blessed. He should honor her at every opportunity, privately and publicly.

The wife described by Solomon was a very busy woman doing for her household. She did for her husband and children. It was not only in deeds but through attitudes conveyed to them. Her husband could safely trust in her. Her children could look up to her. Mothers, today, may not do the exact same things as this particular woman but they can do similar deeds. Whatever she does she can earn the praise and honor of her family. If she gains their honor, all the honors of the world will be as nothing. If she

gains only the world's honors but loses her family's she will be poor indeed.

May each Christian mother strive to perform these sacred duties within her household, so she may have not only the blessings of her husband and children but of the Lord as well.

## SUBSTITUTE MOM

Proverbs 31

"I miss my Mom, and I'll sure be glad when she's home." "I want my Mama — right now!" How many times have you heard such a remark? It frequently comes from the very young, but many also come from older ones. Moms hold a special place in a child's heart and rightly so. Why? Because Mom is there when no one else is. She is a one-person support group and sticks with us through good times and bad. She understands when no one else does, and even when she doesn't, she'll still listen when no one else will.

Generally speaking, Moms are trustworthy. They have worthwhile goals, a proper sense of responsibility, and are ambitious about fulfilling their roles. Moms are concerned about the welfare of others, and when possible, give help to needy neighbors and friends. Moms are an asset to the family, with their wisdom, kindness, strength of spirit. They are to be honored and respected, and encouraged by others. "Let her own works praise her in the gates."

Moms are not perfect, but they do have special gifts and special places to fill in life. Sometimes we still need a mother when we are no longer a child, someone with whom we can share and ask for guidance. We need someone who will listen without judging or loading us down with ill-chosen advice. Moms can serve as counsellors even after their initial responsibilities of child-care are completed. They can encourage us to think and to use common sense in solving problems.

But what do we do when Mom is unavailable, or no longer on this earth? There is where a "substitute Mom" comes in. She could be a trusted friend, a relative, or whoever you can safely confide in. A "substitute Mom" can help to fill your void in your life by her kindness, understanding, and her prayerful concern. She may serve as a counsellor, or as a listener, but whichever you need, the fact that she cares and shares your concerns is most important.

Ruth had a "substitute Mom", and she was a good one. Naomi must not have been a bit like the typical "mother-in-law" tales we hear, for she treated Ruth as her own. She had Ruth's best interest at heart, and showed to Ruth that she really cared. Naomi was grieved because Ruth was a widow so early in life (see Ruth 1:13),

and she urged Ruth to return to her own people. Ruth was determined, however, to stay with Naomi (see v. 16-18), an important decision which Naomi honored.

Ruth, counselled by Naomi, presented herself to Boaz according to their customs, and eventually became his wife. Ruth and Boaz were the great-grandparents of King David, all part of the lineage of Christ. Ruth is one of the few Gentile women named in an otherwise Jewish lineage. This was a special honor for Ruth, made possible because she had chosen to heed the counsel of her "substitute Mom".

Most of us will not have such a notable experience as Ruth did, but sharing with a "substitute Mom" is no less important. Whenever and by whomever guidance and support is given, it helps us be more like Jesus wants us to be. Sharing our faith, our burdens and cares, both strengthens and refreshes us. It gives us emotional support, which we all need. When our own Moms are not available or can't help us, we should ask God to direct us to someone who can.

We have read often in Titus 2:3-4 that the older women are to teach the younger. This responsibility goes beyond our immediate families, so if someone seeks your help, make yourself available. You're needed! Many young mothers are nearly overwhelmed by their burdens, and they need extra support. Some have special needs which can't be shared with just anyone, and your help as a "substitute Mom" may be just what is best then.

Being a "substitute Mom" doesn't guarantee you any special honors, but knowing you have done what you can makes it worthwhile. You can pray, you can listen and try to understand. You can be thoughtful and considerate, just as a mother normally would. At certain times, those closest to the problem can do the least. Then, a "substitute Mom" can be especially helpful. Will you be one?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

May 1, 1926

### CHRISTIAN WOMEN'S RELATION TO THE SIMPLE LIFE

Ruth Drake

Women have a larger part to play in the simple life than many of them ever realize. Many, many of us would not be enjoying the peace that comes from true service to Christ, in real simplicity if we had not received the right example from our mothers. Would to God that every mother realized how far her teachings carried through her children. If she does not teach both by word and

example respect and love for Christ's commands she cannot hope to see them carried out by the coming generations. We as mothers, must, with God's help, build such a stronghold around our young people that they may be able to resist the call of the world when they are once left to decide their own questions of right and wrong.

I wonder what the effect is on our children if they know we do not believe in bobbed hair because the New Testament is opposed to it and yet we bob the babies and smaller girls hair. We probably think "Oh well they are little and they will let it grow out when they get big" but I am afraid Satan smiles to himself whenever he gets a Christian mother that way about bobbed hair. Some say that if we are too strict with children when they are young they will be more likely to rebel at the commands of the Bible than if we allow them more freedom. Such is the exception rather than the rule for we cannot expect children to believe what they have not been taught. If Christian women everywhere were following Christ's commands regarding the simple life it would be a wonderful incentive for the younger girls to fall in line. It is the half-hearted service and the attempt of so many to be Christians and yet follow all the fashions of the world that lead our young people astray. Suppose a mother talks "the simple life" to her children and yet when she makes her own or their clothes she follows all the latest styles, and adds all the unnecessary trimmings Madam Fashion demands. You can answer the question without any aid as to what the results will be. The simple life will not mean anything if practice does not proceed teaching.

The story was told recently of a Dunkard mother who with her daughter was entertaining a lady of the world one afternoon. During the conversation they were admiring the lady's hat and the mother told her daughter to put it on. She then told her how nice she looked in it. The result was that in a short time the daughter was wearing a hat. Who was to blame? If the Christian women of today who are lamenting the fact that the Dunkard church is getting away from the simple life would only do more by example it would help in future years. Can we expect our girls to keep their character clean if we as Christian mothers allow them to wear the sleeveless dresses and immodestly low necks of today or do the same ourselves? How can they know the danger of wearing their dresses in that condition if we sanction their actions and do not explain? If they go wrong at whose door do you think God will place the blame?

Dear Christian mothers let's make the most of those few short years when the boys and girls are entirely under our care. The old adage, "As the twig is bent so is the tree inclined" is not so far wrong after all. The Catholics say, "Give them a child for the first

six years of its life and they are sure of its being Catholic the rest of its life." If that is true of them what is the matter with our training mothers and fathers, too?

Now dear Christian women who are not mothers don't think you have no responsibility. Your influence is being thrown on all sides and some younger girl is watching you thinking to herself that you are her ideal and if you sidestep she is apt to do the same. May God help each of us as Christian women to see the responsibility which Christ has placed upon each of us. He depends upon his children here in this world to carry out his work. How it grieves our mother hearts when our children disobey and how much more must it grieve Christ's great loving heart when we disobey.

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

men in the church

It has been my concern for some time that the Brethren of the conservative churches have been somewhat negligent in assuming their God given responsibilities and this situation has led to confusion of both men and women as to who is responsible for certain functions in the church.

If ever there was a time in the history of the Church that we need strong men who are willing to take up the challenge of God ordained leadership, it is today.

Today is not so much different than it was in the time of Elijah. He lived in a day when people seemed to worship God with their mouth but did not serve Him with their hearts. Instead, they were serving the gods of self desire and lust. To overcome this problem, it took a man of great strength, allowing God to use him in total commitment in service.

God has established the basic standards for the Christian life and the Church is required to maintain these standards. To do this, a man must be consistent and strong in his convictions. He must have a great faith and be strong in grace as well as mighty in his spirit. He must be able to explain, with love and commitment, the requirements of God for His people and help people to gain a desire to serve in obedience.

So many times men approach people in an unChristlike manner and then do not understand why positive response and actions are not a result of that contact. Rather than helping to have a right understanding of God and a proper self image in relation to Christ, men give negative commands and elicit negative responses. To make someone feel inferior is to make that person insecure. The man of God must be able to be seen as dependable and should deserve and get respect from the congregation.

Could one of the problems with male leadership today be that we feel that people should serve in the Church out of fear... not only the fear of God but also the fear of ourselves? Men fulfilling their Christian responsibility of leadership can not elicit action of other members in this way. Instead, it only destroys confidence in both that leader and the system of authority.

Men in the Church need to look at priorities. Priorities lead to actions implemented as a result of convictions. Positive action elicits positive reaction. Pressure and wrong leadership signals lead to resentment by the church members.

It is the role of the men with leadership responsibility to instill confidence in the Church and in God. Many children literally get their understanding of God through the actions of adult males with whom they associate. If a child sees a weak, unstable, unresponsive man, what kind of image does he have in his mind as to what his role should be when he grows to maturity? Weakness breeds weakness. Strength engenders strength.

Men in the Church must be filled with self-control. Self-control leads to self-respect and the respect of others. It leads to a feeling of confidence by the Church and its response will be TOWARD OBEDIENCE and against compromise.

The Church needs men today to pay attention to details, both in the worship service as well as in personal relationships. They must be attentive to doctrine, to teaching, to creating an environment in which there is a desire to live with high ideals.

Where are the Apostle Pauls who are willing to suffer profoundly for the brethren and sisters? Where are the Daniels who will influence the world with zealousness toward God? Where are the Abrahams who are strong in faith and will not stagger at the promise of God through unbelief? Where are the John the Baptists... waxing strong in spirit? These are the traits the Church needs in a profound way today. Men who will sense God's presence and act and react as a result of true Spirit leading. Men who understand the deep things of God as well as the structure of the emotions. Men who comprehend the great height and depth of God's love. Men who are willing to work at motivating others to greater heights of Christian living rather than depressing the spirit of others. Men who can be respected by other men, women and children as they build their lives around solid Christian principles. Men with wisdom!

Can we estimate the damage that might have been done to the Church because we men have not understood and grasped the role as leaders which Christ expects of us? But is it too late? I don't believe so. God has ordained men in each generation to work His will with a deeper and fuller knowledge to advance the Church

toward her goal. We must recognize God's reproofs for wrong that have come in chaotic lack of unity in this age. We must relieve ourselves of selfish motives for self advancement instead of the advancement of the overall good of the Church. We must put the humanistic influences of greed and selfishness away from our lives and give sacrificially for the cause of the Kingdom. We must, in summary, LEAD. Leading will show the women of the Body our place and their position in the fellowship. It will give young people and children correct, godly, role models. It will bring a strength and vitality back into the Body that will allow us to effectively use the human resources around us. Is it worth the effort? Can we detect the early warnings of rebellion that we are warned will come if we do not remain committed to living and leading by God's true standards? Let us be men... men of discernment... men of obedience, MEN OF GOD.

Brother Leonard Wertz

### **WHY, ME? WHY, LORD? WHY, US?**

Are these the questions you ask when accidents happen or things do not go according to your plans? Do you get angry and go off on your own, or do you go to the Lord? Do you seek Him for guidance, or fight it on your own?

Would these three questions be the questions you ask when your doorbell rings with a stranger at your door, and the stranger says, "Your son has been in an accident. He is hurting real bad and we do not know if he will live. He was flown to Shock Trauma." What would your reaction be? Would you be angry at God? Or would you pray, "Lord help us through, guide and direct us."

We looked at each other and our daughters, cried some, then I said, "We can only pray." The girls left the boys sleep, but this became the longest night we ever went through. I never really understood fully what was meant with "Pray without ceasing." I learned that night. We were praying constantly. It seemed the clock went so slow.

After arriving at the hospital we waited two hours to talk to the doctors. It was 11:00 Friday morning before we could see Ben. The following three months were the most trying and agonizing ordeal of our lives. There is a song, "One Day at a Time" I love to hear. These three months we learned all about living one day at a time. We never knew from day to day what the outcome would be. Will you gain a step or will you lose a step? Would the doctor say, "I'm sorry, there is not much to do, but pray that God will make things right."?

The night of the accident we prayed and handed Ben into God's

hands. "He is yours, do with him according to thy will. We will try to understand whatever happens." We also said, "Lord I am yours", and asked for strength. "Lord hold Ben in your arms and comfort him."

We were told that at this time the hospital staff saw our faith and they started three prayer chains that went around the clock. They were made up of doctors, nurses, assistants, therapists, and house-keeping personnel.

The following three months were more waiting to fix the left main broncus stem to his lung. Then came eight weeks in the rehab hospital. Eight days at home. Then Ben got sick and was in the York Hospital for three weeks. He came home March 6, 1986. Ben still needs a lot of therapy and tutoring. He also needs several surgeries.

Why us? I was brought closer to the Lord. The children were really taught the value of prayer. Ben's friends said they knew about prayer but through this they learned HOW to pray. Ben's dad came to the Lord. We have heard of others that came to the Lord because of Ben's accident. We all became stronger in the Lord. So why not? We do not ask those questions. We just praise, thank, and give God the glory for sending Ben back to us.

Our hearts were touched from all that you have done. Just saying thanks does not seem enough. It is beyond words. Ben received over four hundred get well cards, two scrapbooks, love gifts, sunshine box, and many others. We thank you for all of these but most of all we thank you and appreciated each and everyone's prayers. We give God the honor and praise and say, "Thank You, God. Praise the Lord." Our hearts go out to all of you. May God richly bless you.

In Christian Love and Prayers,  
Brother Dennis and Sister Alice Keeny  
and family  
Ben, Susan, Linda, Bill and David

## PRAISE OUR OMNIPRESENT GOD!

Depression and discouragement spotted an opportunity — and grabbed it — to raise their destroying heads inside my heart. Overcome with self-pity, I allowed them to control me for a time. I paced dejectedly around the house, tears streaming down my cheeks, and outward sign of my inner turmoil. Just as I was thinking I was alone in a deep, dark valley with no hope of getting out, God spoke. He manifested Himself to me through the voice of a little four-year-old child. "Don't cry, Mommy. Jesus loves you. Jesus lives in your heart!" Glancing down, I saw the uplifted face of my daughter, her eyes filled with concern, yet offering comfort. I

dropped to my knees, took her into my arms, and whispered, "Thank You, Jesus."

But now, the battle was on. Depression and discouragement would not give up so easily. They strengthened their attack. Those demonic forces became more persistent, determined to have their way in my life.

"Don't cry, Mommy. Jesus loves you. Jesus lives in your heart!" The words came to me again and again, until my soul cried, "Hallelujah! Jesus DOES love me! Jesus IS with me!"

The thrusts of the enemy gradually became weak and timid as I meditated on those words and spoke them aloud. "Jesus lives in my heart!" Finally, Satan was gone, defeated by the GREAT KING, the Maker of my soul! Jesus had helped me fight the battle, and we had come through victorious!

Isn't it EXCITING to know that God is with us at ALL TIMES! God told Moses, "... My presence shall go with thee, and I will give thee rest." (Ex. 33:14) Those words are for us, too! We can be CONFIDENT, and say with CONVICTION, "God is our refuge and strength, a very PRESENT help in trouble." (Ps. 46:1) Like David, we can praise God for His omnipresence. "Whether shall I go from Thy spirit? or whither shall I flee from Thy presence? If I ascend up into heaven, Thou art there: if I make my bed in hell, behold, Thou art there. If I take the wings of the morning, and dwell in the uttermost parts of the sea; Even there shall Thy hand lead me, and Thy right hand shall hold me. If I say, Surely the darkness shall cover me; even the night shall be light about me. Yea, the darkness hideth not from Thee; but the night shineth as the day: the darkness and the light are both alike to Thee." (Ps. 139:7-12)

How WONDERFUL! How MARVELOUS! Doesn't it make you want to jump up and SHOUT FOR JOY? What a GREAT GOD we have! Amen!

Sister Julie Litfin  
Quinter, Kansas

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

The Bible, God's Revelation  
J. H. Moore

The Bible not only supplies the spiritual cravings of man, but it bears upon its face the unmistakable evidence of an Inspired Volume. It is made up of sixty-six books, written by half as many men, who lived at different periods of the world's history, and in different parts of the earth. They wrote at widely different times, under different circumstances, and for different purposes. From the time the first book of the Old Testament was commenced, until

the last book of the New Testament was completed, nearly sixteen hundred years rolled by. These different authors were men of various occupations and attainments. Among them were kings, prophets, judges, scribes, shepherds, military officials, poets, tax-gatherers, college graduates, fishermen and physicians. Some were men of polished literary attainments, while others were favored with only an ordinary education. As each man wrote, he was guided by the Holy Ghost; and so the Bible comes down to us with the Holy Spirit and God behind it. We need not offer special evidence in support of its Divine Authenticity. What is it accomplishing in the conversion of men and women, and in making the world better, to say nothing of its perfect adaptation to the needs of man, is ample proof of its claims as the Revealed Will of the Most High. As has well been said:

"This Book contains the mind of God, the state of man, the way of salvation, the doom of sinners and the happiness of believers. Its doctrines are holy, its precepts are binding, its histories are true, and its decisions are immutable. Read it to be wise, believe it to be safe, and practice it to be holy. It contains light to direct you, food to support you and comfort to cheer you. It is the traveler's map, the pilgrim's staff, the pilot's compass, the soldier's sword, and the Christian's charter. Here Paradise is restored, heaven opened, and the gates of hell disclosed. Christ is its grand object, our good its design, and the glory of God its end. It should fill the memory, rule the heart and guide the feet. Read it slowly, frequently and prayerfully. It is a mine of wealth, a Paradise of glory and a river of pleasure. It is given you in life, will be opened in the judgment, and will be remembered forever. It involves the highest responsibility, will reward the greatest labor, and will condemn all who trifle with its sacred contents."

## THE DANGER OF SELF LOVE

Luke 10:27-28, "And he (a certain lawyer) answering said, Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy strength, and with all thy mind; and thy neighbor as thyself. And he (Jesus) said unto him, Thou hast answered right: this do, and thou shalt live."

Matthew 16:24-26, "Then said Jesus unto his disciples, If any man will come after me, let him deny himself, and take up his cross, and follow me. For whosoever will save his life shall lose it: and whosoever will lose his life for my sake shall find it. For what is a man profited if he shall gain the whole world, and lose his own soul? or what shall a man give in exchange for his soul?"

Suicide is on the increase especially among young people. Many Christians are suffering depression and a lack of zeal. Many are

throwing up their hands in defeat and declaring that life is no longer worth the struggle so why try to better ourselves spiritually and financially.

In the midst of this chaos comes a word of seeming new hope. "We have too long thought negatively about ourself. Jesus Christ taught that we should love ourself." And, indeed, Jesus told the lawyer that he was right when he stated that we should love our neighbor as ourself. There is a need to realize that IN CHRIST we can be what God desires us to be. We must also realize that while we are in this body we will never reach complete perfection. Satan will try to discourage a Christian by bringing up past sins in his life. But if a sin is confessed it is under the blood of Jesus Christ and God says He will remember it no more.

First of all, let us ask the question, is there any time when a Christian should not feel good about himself? If there is an area of our lives where we are not loving God with all our heart, with all our soul, with all our strength, and with all our mind then we should not feel good in these areas. But is it possible to do this while in our mortal bodies? We believe the answer is an obvious, "no". In Philippians 4:13 Paul states, "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." It is not feeling good about ourself, as the positive thinking preachers proclaim, but realizing that we must continually put our faith and trust in Jesus Christ. In Philippians 3:14 Paul expressed it this way, "I press toward the mark for the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus."

Rather than "pressing toward the mark" self love states that we should be content with where we are. It states that once we have a positive feeling about ourself then we can succeed in our spiritual endeavors. But in our second opening verse Christ declared that we must deny ourself. It is no longer popular to recognize that we are a needy people. In Romans 7:24, Paul laments, "O wretched man that I am! who shall deliver me from the body of this death?" This was AFTER Paul had his glorious salvation experience on the road to Damascus. His answer is. "I thank God through Jesus Christ our Lord." So now Paul was thinking pretty good about himself? If the verse ended here we could surmise that after we are Christians we should love ourself and no longer worry about our sinful nature. But Paul does not end here. He continues. "So then with the mind I myself serve the law of God, but with the flesh the law of sin." Paul still saw himself as "O wretched man that I am!" Modern versions have muddied the waters by leaving off an important part of the next verse, Romans 8:1. "There is therefore no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus, WHO WALK NOT AFTER THE FLESH, BUT AFTER THE SPIRIT." Unconditional eternal security teachers love to quote this verse WITHOUT the last phrase. The same is true of the self love

teachers.

We now come to a seeming paradox. In Romans 8:8-9 Paul says that the flesh can not please God, but if the Spirit of Christ dwells in us we are not in the flesh. Is Paul contradicting himself? No, he is teaching substitutary perfection. "IN CHRIST," is the most important phrase. If the Spirit of Christ is in us then we are in Christ. Here is where the self love teaching falls short. We can not "fan the spark of fire within us" as these self love individuals proclaim. As Isaiah 64:6 proclaims, "But we are all as an unclean thing, and all our righteousness are as filthy rags;..." It is the righteousness of Jesus Christ that we can glory in, not our own goodness.

With the self love teaching has come the idea that God does not care what we do with our bodies as far as outward appearance is concerned. We are to "be beautiful" like the world describes beauty. Have we come to the point where we are more concerned about "gaining the whole world" than losing our own soul? We are glad that God will be the final judge. But God did not put instructions concerning modest apparel and length of hair in the scriptures because He had nothing better to do. Self love provides excuses while Christ demands we take up our cross and follow Him.

We can rejoice in our salvation. We ARE a special people. There is no reason for dismay. Jesus Christ can carry us through all our problems. We can be "proud in the Lord." But we must be very careful that we do not see our own strength as being sufficient.

Are you weary and heavy laden? Do you wish there was more to life? We have a Savior who wishes to be in control of your life. If you are unsaved this is the most important decision you can make. Heaven or Hell lies in the balance. If you are a Christian allow Jesus Christ to truly be Lord. Do not fall for the trap of self love.

James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078

## MARRIAGE

### EBERLY - SINES

Bro. Roger Eberly, son of Bro. and Sis. Paul Eberly, Smithsburg, Maryland and Sis. Jeanne Sines, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Ronald Sines, Frostburg, Maryland were united in marriage April 5, 1986. The wedding service was held at Broadwater Chapel, Savage River, Maryland. The service was performed by Elder Allen Eberly.

The couple is residing at 30 Richmond St., Apt. 7, Hagerstown, Maryland 21740.

**NEWS ITEMS****GENERAL CONFERENCE**

June 7 - 11, 1986

Directions to the Ohio Missionary Church Camp Grounds at Ludlow Falls, Ohio which is on Route 48 just north of junction Route 55. All those traveling Interstate 75 coming from north or south get off at Route 55, and go west to Ludlow Falls. Those traveling Interstate 70 from east or west get off at Route 48, and proceed north (approximately 8 miles) to grounds. Those coming from north on Route 127, take Route 571 to Route 55 and proceed to grounds.

By plane, come to Cox Municipal Airport, Dayton, and call the campgrounds for someone to pick you up. The telephone number is 698-3079. Those coming by bus, come to Dayton and call the campground number. Please bring your own bedding. There will be room for campers. Campers will be appreciated in helping to care for lodging.

If you do not already have your reservations in, please do so now.  
Send to:

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R. 1 Box 62  
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or

Bro. Don Hostetler  
5855 Sweet Potato Ridge Road  
Englewood, Ohio 45322  
(513) 832-3136

or

Bro. Paul Stump  
10340 N. Diamond Mill Road  
Englewood, Ohio 45322  
(513) 836-6559



When the prodigal son left home he said, "Father give me."  
When he returned home he said, "Father make me."

Selected by Sister Emma W. Stauffer

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

MAY 15, 1986

NO. 10

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## HOW WOULD WE STAND?

If a person were handed a penny  
For each smile that they've given away;  
For each kind word or help that they've offered  
As they go through their life, day by day;

If a person were given a penny  
For each time that they've made someone laugh;  
And a penny for prayers that they've lifted  
In a friend or a stranger's behalf;

We'd probably be doing quite well;  
But what if, by the same token,  
We had to return just one penny  
For each time a harsh word we've spoken?

For each time we've spread bits of gossip;  
For each time we could have helped more;  
How would we stand at the end of our lives?  
Would we be quite rich.... or quite poor?

- Kay Bowman  
Selected by Sister Karen Blocher

## THY SPEECH BEWRAYETH THEE

Although Peter attempted to deceive those who warmed themselves with him, by his words, he failed because his speech gave him away. Peter was cold, not only physically but Spiritually as well. The heat of the fire could warm his body but not his soul. He was more interested in his body's temperature than in Jesus, whom he had followed afar off. His concern for his body's welfare brought him into contact with others who were only interested in Jesus because of curiosity.

To them Jesus appeared to be a criminal. Any associate of His would also appear suspect. Peter did not want to be thought a criminal nor a friend of a criminal. When his fireside companions began to link him with Jesus, he became desperate. What would he do if they asked? He didn't have long to think about it. They began one by one to ask this stranger about what, if any, relationship he had with this Jesus. In the desperation of wanting to appear normal and not radical, he denied he knew Jesus or was associated with Him.

Surely, by his words they would be satisfied that he was not a companion of Jesus. But he forgot that his words revealed far more than he supposed. His words revealed his origins. He was Galilean. His speech differed from that of the local inhabitants. Jesus was known as a Galilean so surely this Galilean fisherman must be associated with Him. Although he could deny the association, his speech had bewrayed him.

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### THE BIBLE MONITOR

### MAY 15, 1986

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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The word "bewray" means to expose, divulge or betray. His speech patterns, if not the very words he spoke, gave him away. He was a Galilean fisherman and soon he spoke in curses and swearing like the fisherman he was.

Does our speech "bewray" us? Does it tell more about us than we might wish to have known? Peter's speech showed where he was from. Does our speech show that we are a follower of Jesus? Does both the content and the attitude of our talking show that we have been with Jesus?

The Bible has many admonitions concerning our speaking. There are warnings against foolish jesting, against blasphemy and against denying the Lord. Words of hatred, variance and division are not to be used. Rather, words of love, agreeableness and solidarily are to be spoken. The key to the Christian's speech is that his words agree with the attitude that he conveys.

Words can become mere empty vessels telling wonderful things but lacking in sincerity. Unfortunately even Christians can speak empty words. Often politicians are cited for their overly-diplomatic, self-serving manner of speaking so as to enlist the support of the most people possible. Yet Christians may in a similar way speak great swelling words that are empty of true feeling or force. These words or phrases are called "platitudes." They are phrases that have been used over and over until they become meaningless except to be diplomatic and self-serving. When these words are spoken with nothing behind them they become condemnatory rather than helpful.

The Christian must be careful about his speech. While he must speak of the timeless story of salvation and those things that accompany it, he must be careful that he does not slip into the use of well meaning but empty phrases. A sermon full of platitudes will perhaps entertain as oratory but will be flat as Spiritual food.

When Peter denied his Lord, he slipped back into his old habits. He became in that moment of untruth, a Galilean fisherman again. His words became profane and offensive. The Christian whose life does not match his speech also may appear as he was in the past. The old man may overcome the better intentions of his profession. It will be more than likely that it will be his words that will reveal his insincerity.

Although we are to believe with our hearts, it is the mouth that is to make confession of what we believe. We can have hearts full of love but unless it is spoken in both word and deed, no one else will know about it. If we speak of love or faith without possessing them we have again become false just like Peter. To falsely claim what is not ours is just as dishonest as denying we are companions of

Jesus. Either way our speech will betray us.

Be careful what you say, for your speech will as surely bewray you as Peter's did him.

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### The kind of person God wants me to be... AVAILABLE

This is the beginning of a series of articles that will, Lord willing, take us through the remainder of 1986. If we are going to build Christian character, we must understand what the attributes of that character are and how we implement them in our life. We have begun these lessons with AVAILABILITY because it seems to be the beginning of becoming the kind of person God wants me to be.

We must become accessible to the desires of God. And even though I encourage being busy Christians, the busy person is not always the most available to Him. We see Martha being busier than Mary as Jesus visited their house, but Mary became more available. This might illustrate to us that just being busy is not always being available. The available person is sensitive to what God is saying and is ready and willing to respond. Remember that the Priest and Levite who passed by the man who was injured in the road were busy... but they were not available. Only the Good Samaritan was willing to change his schedule to meet the need of someone else.

Our availability to God and to others arises out of God's ownership of us. We are not our own. (I Cor. 6:20) We are God's possession and He may use us in any way that he chooses. To be available, then, is to relinquish personal rights and not to fence ourselves in with so many personal activities that we are too busy to hear the call of God.

Some people are caught up in their secular activities so fully that they really don't care if God IS calling. Ball games, school activities, social affairs and even work-a-day lives keep us from yielding ourselves as instruments of righteousness. (Romans 6:13)

When we are commanded to die to self, we understand that we will then be available to God. Discipleship is literally "... all of Thee and none of me..." And remember, availability is not just running around looking religious but it rather is being sensitive to His call and doing those things He requires of you.

Abraham was a man with a secure, if not a smug life. But when the call of the unknown came to him, he IMMEDIATELY made himself available. Not only was he available but he was willing to give up that which was most precious to him to be obedient to God's instruction. What will we give up today for the cause of Christ? There are times when it is hard to give up some community

event even to come to a Lovefeast Service. Are our priorities in the world or are they in the Lord?

Mary became the "handmaid of the Lord" when she was given the seemingly impossible task of giving birth to the Messiah. She made herself available to the Holy Spirit and God did the rest.

The disciples were busy men but when Jesus called them, they made themselves available. And you know what? They had to leave their business interests to make that commitment. Some people can not become available because their business is the most important thing in the world to them. They can't seem to see that the Lord has something far better for them... so they keep holding on to their nets rather than dropping them and following Jesus.

Remember the men who said they would follow Jesus AFTER they did a variety of other activities? These men were never available for Jesus. Do you suppose in some way they were not only too busy but felt unqualified or lacking in talent? God doesn't need super talented people... He needs available people. The ABILITY God is looking for is AVAILABILITY.

There is by nature inconvenience in serving others. That is part of the principle of being self giving.

We become unavailable as a result of sin in our lives. Even as Adam and Eve ran and hid from God, so sin causes us to run from Him and hide in unavailability.

Will being available necessarily give you long life? Possible not! But it will give you a righteous life. The prophets of the Old Testament didn't always live to be old because they dared to stand apart from the crowd, the majority of society. Even most of the apostles were martyred because they were available to God and as a result were not available to society.

If all of the members of the church suddenly became available, what kind of impact could we make for God in the world today? If we didn't "let someone else do it," the work of the church would be done with greater ease and efficiency. Let us say with Isaiah, "Here am I; send me." Let's not say, "Here am I, send Bill!" You will have a unique way of carrying out that responsibility which no one else has.

And needs WILL arise. Why? Because God is going to test us to see if we will make ourselves available to Him. Will we pass the test? Will the tasks be done because we care? Do you suppose that someone else has missed out on a special blessing because you were the one who did not carry through with your part of a responsibility? If only a few bricks give way in a structure it has the capability of collapsing. Don't let the work of the Lord collapse. Be the kind of person that God wants you to be. Be AVAILABLE.

## GUILT TRIP

A merry-go-round or carousel is a fun-thing, a contraption which whirls you around, creating lots of motion, but going nowhere. A guilt-trip is about the same, setting your mind in a whirl but getting you nowhere. It stirs up a lot of mental action, but doesn't accomplish anything worthwhile. A guilt-trip, like the merry-go-round, has no real goal or destination. It doesn't accomplish anything, but even so, you must really hang on for the trip or you'll be hurt.

A guilt-trip is always something you send someone else on. It is an attempt to make someone feel responsible for a situation, whether it's justified or not. It is a means of applying pressure to another, to manipulate them or put them on the spot. True guilt means one is responsible for certain matters. A guilt-trip is false guilt imposed on someone else, and it is always based on selfish or unwise reasoning.

Whenever anyone tries to make you feel guilty, it signifies several things. One, he or she thinks he has the answer to your problem, namely that it's your fault. Two, if the guilt, hence the responsibility, can all be shoved off on you, then the problem is no longer anyone else's responsibility. Remarks such as "if you had enough faith, you'd be healed", or "there must be sin in your life, or God would help you" are examples of how we send others on guilt-trips.

Jesus once healed a man who had been blind from birth. The disciples asked, "Master, who did sin, this man, or his parents, that he was born blind?" Matt. 9:2. This man's personal sin couldn't have caused blindness at birth. As for his parents, Jesus said they weren't at fault either. Yet the disciples had been sure someone was guilty, or it wouldn't have happened. The Pharisees were also determined to blame someone for something, because it didn't fit in their rules. None of this changed the fact that God alone is able to render true judgment for He knows all the facts. See I Cor. 4:5.

Though well-meant, statements such as "you are your unsaved spouse's best witness" imply that the Christian spouse has to be perfect. Right away, his or her mind starts to whirl, because no human being is going to be a perfect example. In the resulting frustration, one may give up, or decide he must be super-perfect. A woman may try to pressure her husband into a role he's not ready for. He then may become resentful, and soon the whole household has been "turned upside down", simply because one person sent another on a guilt-trip.

What then has been accomplished by this? It's like a ride on a merry-go-round, with lots of action but no positive results. The one, already in distress, now has a greater burden and is more confused. He or she has been made to feel totally responsible, yet

feels very inadequate. The entire family has been disturbed, yet they are not quite sure what they did wrong. Not one positive action has come from it. Why? Because someone passed judgment on another, and dumped the entire responsibility for one person's salvation in the lap of another person.

It is true that we are to be good witnesses and do the best we can, but the salvation of a soul is God's work. Jesus is our perfect example, not some person, and salvation comes when we personally accept Jesus into our hearts. A professing Christian may make many mistakes, but that is no excuse for anyone to reject Christ and continue in sin. To blame a believer for an unbeliever's sinful state is a very negative approach to the matter.

The real reason anyone is unsaved is he or she hasn't accepted Jesus. An unbeliever who is not ready to face personal responsibility for his life often makes excuses based on someone else's failure. This transfer of guilt is another form of a guilt-trip. It is possible for us to hinder another person spiritually, but each of us is still personally responsible to God. "So then everyone of us shall give account of himself to God." Rom. 14:12. No amount of excuses or blaming others will justify us before God.

Before you blame others, sending them on a guilt-trip, consider some facts. Many found fault with Jesus and the disciples for not washing their hands before meals, eating with sinners, and so forth. They didn't understand Jesus' work, so they just criticized. Very often, that's why we criticize. We don't understand, but we give our opinions anyhow, without consideration for those we are hurting. The time may come when we will have to say as Joseph's brothers did: "We are verily guilty concerning our brother, in that we saw the anguish of his soul, when he besought us, and we would not hear." Gen. 42:21.

If you have been in the habit of criticizing, try encouraging instead. Forget about sending others on guilt-trips, and consider your own responsibility to them. Do all you can to help; don't add to their confusion and distress. Any sort of a put-down causes a guilty, trapped feeling, and when we are already trying to do our best, it hurts when someone blames us for situations beyond our control.

For you who need an up-lift, don't give up. Pray in faith: "But let him ask in faith, nothing wavering: for he that wavereth is like a wave of the sea driven with the wind and tossed." James 1:6. And keep working: "And let us not be weary in well-doing: for in due season, we shall reap, if we faint not." Gal. 6:9. The answer will come in due time, if you are faithful. Stay off the merry-go-round of false guilt, which brings defeat, and look to Jesus Who will give you the victory.

## UNRAVELLING THE MYSTERIES OF MUSIC

Singing is an act of worship to God in which each of us can participate. There will be singing in Heaven, and we will be singing a new song. I believe it is wise and exciting for us to practice for this Heavenly chorus right here and now! Many of us sing to God at least every week in our church services, and we should want to learn more about how to sing. Since we are expressing our praises to the Lord of Lords and King of Kings, we should strive for excellence in our singing! Certainly we are not seeking men's praise, but striving to bring praises to the Lord of the universe and the Savior of our souls.

For our examples, we will use the 1901 black "Brethren Hymnal" because it is widely used among our denomination. For clarification, in this article the word "tune" will refer to the music, and "poem" will refer to the words. The word "hymn" will refer to the combination of the words and music. Examples of hymn numbers where the item under discussion can be found will be indicated in parenthesis.

Turn to Hymn number 1. At the top of the page is the title of the book, "THE BRETHREN HYMNAL." Next is the title of the tune, which in this case happens to be "Thy Gracious Power." There are some rather interesting tune names in our book, such as, "Hamburg" (254), "Denning's Creek" (35), "Quinter" (107), and "Flora" (119). There is no real rhyme or reason in naming tunes. The names come from people, places or subjects. In some cases, the first few words of the poem become the tune name. Many poems can be sung to more than one tune. Some tunes are used more than once in our Hymnal. See "Dennis" (8 and 485), "Duke Street" (30 and 64), and "Martyn" (147 and 172).

To the right of the tune name are the letters, "C.M.D." These letters describe the meter. Many hymnals do not have this feature. Every poem has some kind of meter. Tunes have meter, also. The word "meter" describes the measured arrangement of syllables according to stress and length. The meter of the poem must be the same as the meter of the tune. The Hymn and Music Committees chose what they felt were the most appropriate poems to fit the tunes within the guidelines of the meter.

The letters "C.M.D." stand for "Common Meter Double." This means that the meter of the first half of the tune is exactly the same as the meter in the second half. Even though the tune is different, the words in the first half could easily be sung to the tune in the second half of the hymn. The words of Hymn number 1 would fit any tune with a "C.M. Double" meter. There are fourteen tunes in the Black Book with this particular meter. You will see many

different meters in the Black Hymnal, such as "7s", "C.P.M.", "8s & 7s Double", and "11s". However "L.M." (Long Meter), "C.M." (Common Meter), and "S.M." (Short Meter) account for well over one-third of the hymns in our book. Any "L.M." tune can be interchanged with any "L.M." poem. Some are more appropriate than others, but the meter is the same.

Under the title of the tune is a scripture reference. This is helpful when trying to find a particular hymn to go with a sermon.

Under the scripture reference appear two names. The name on the left is the author of the poem. To the right appears the composer of the tune.

Some of the tunes in the Brethren Hymnal were arranged from Gregorian Chants, which are among the most ancient form of church music. These tunes are derived from the songs of the earliest Christian worshippers. See "Hamburg" (254), and "Olmutz" (221). The next time you sing, "When I Survey the Wondrous Cross," permit your mind to wander to the early church. Think about Paul and Silas in the jail, as they sang different words to some of these very tunes.

Brother Robert Lehigh

# GENERAL CONFERENCE PROGRAM

of the

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to be held at

OHIO MISSIONARY CHURCH CONFERENCE GROUNDS  
LUDLOW FALLS, OHIO  
JUNE 7 thru JUNE 11, 1986

### PREACHING PROGRAM

TIME	SPEAKER	SUBJECT	TEXT
Sat. P.M.	Bro. Jan Heisey	To Be Supplied	
Sat. P.M.	Bro. Terry Gunderman	To Be Supplied	
Sat. Eve.	Eld. Joseph Flora	Awake	Rom. 10:10-14
*Sun. A.M.	Sunday School for Children	The Good Samaritan	Luke 10:25-37
Sun. A.M.	Eld. Paul R. Myers	Is there any word from the Lord?	Jer. 37:4-17
Sun. A.M.	Eld. Eugene Kauffman	Spiritual Vitamins for Growing Souls	2 Pet. 3:10-18

Sun. P.M.	Eld. Harley Rush	To Be Supplied	
Sun. P.M.	Eld. Hayes Reed	The Jews and the Middle East	Gen. 12:1-3, 17:7 & 8
Sun. Eve.	Eld. Warren Smith	Justification	Rom. 5:1-12
Sun. Eve.	Bro. Fred Pifer Young People	Here am I, my son	Gen. 22:7
Mon. A.M.	Bible Study — Adults Children	Man's sinfulness and the provision of Justification The Prodigal Son	Rom. 3:1-31 Luke 15:11-32
Mon. A.M.	Bro. Rudy Shaffer	To Be Supplied	
Mon. P.M.	Bro. Merle Sweitzer	Heart Disease in the Body of Christ	
Mon. P.M.	Bro. Dennis St. John	Healing Medicines	Jer. 30:13
Mon. Eve.	Eld. Robert Carpenter	To Be Supplied	
Mon. Eve.	Eld. Frank Shaffer	All things are Ready, Come	Matt. 22:4
Tues. A.M.	Bible Study — Adults  Children	Law, Faith and Works  A Blind Man Receiveth Sight	Rom. 4:1-25 James 2:17-26  John 9:1-38
Tues. A.M.	Bro. Milton Cook	Noah	Genesis 6
Tues. P.M.	Gordon Jamison	Decorum Committee — Missionary Program	
Tues. Eve.	Eld. Galen Litfin	Early History of Torreon Mission	

**1986 GENERAL CONFERENCE CAMP GROUND RULES**

1. Anyone entering grounds must check in at the Camp office.
2. No tobacco.
3. No alcoholic beverages.
4. No narcotics.
5. No swearing.
6. No littering.
7. Speed Limit 5 m.p.h.
8. Gates will be closed and general quiet will prevail from 11:00 p.m. to 6:00 a.m.
9. The officers of General Conference are authorized to take care of any unusual situations as they may see proper.

Elder Harley Flory  
Chairman of Arrangements  
Committee 1986



It matters not how a man dies but how he lives.

It matters not how long a man lives but how well.

Selected by Sister Emma W. Stauffer

## PRAISE THE LORD

The Psalmist David's life was filled with praise, honour and thanksgiving to God. He said, "I will praise thee, Oh Lord." In nine of his written psalms he starts out with these words, "Praise ye the Lord." He said, "O, praise the Lord all ye nations, praise him all ye people, for his merciful kindness is great toward us and the truth of the Lord endureth forever, Praise ye the Lord."

David reminds us of the great blessings of the Lord. "Blessed are the undefiled in the way who walk in the law of the Lord." Praised ye the Lord, blessed is the man that feareth the Lord that delighteth greatly in His commandments." David loved the Lord because he had heard His voice, his name and had given him the heritage of those who fear his name. He had confidence in God's strength rather than the armour of flesh. He said that he restoreth his soul and leadeth him in the paths of righteousness. He prayed for his goodness, asked for protection from his enemies and protection for all the children of God. "Sing praises unto his name forever sing forth the honour of his name. Make his praise glorious." We should obey and praise the Lord.

The praise of God comes from thankful hearts in honour of His righteousness. Praise comes from those who have their trust in God. We should have the blessed hope that will lead us to praise the Lord more and more. David gives us many exhortations to praise, honour and thankfulness to the Lord. He says that he will praise the Lord with his whole heart for His works are honorable and glorious and His righteousness endureth forever. His heart was filled with praise for the Lord. Today we, too, have many blessings for which to praise the Lord, and to give Him honour and greatness.

David gives us, also, the sad fate of the wicked. He says that the fool says in his heart there is no God. "Praise the Lord, Oh my soul and forget not all his benefits. Praise him for his wonderful works to the children of men." He speaks of the faithful being blessed and the wicked being destroyed. "Oh Lord, how excellent is thy name in all the earth. Who has set thy glory above the earth. How excellent is thy name in all the earth." He praised the Lord for His strength and as a fortress against his enemies.

"Praise the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits." Our hearts should be filled and overflowing. "And for his wonderful works to the children of men." David said, "Let the sinners be consumed out of the earth and let the wicked be no more. Bless thou the Lord, O my soul, praise ye the Lord. He has put a new song in my mouth even praise unto our Lord. Many shall see it and fear and shall trust in the Lord. Rejoice in the Lord, O ye righteous

for praise is continually for the upright. I will bless the Lord at all times his praise shall continually be in my mouth. To the end that my glory may sing praise to the Lord and not be silent, O Lord, My God I will give thanks to thee forever."

We should:

Praise God from whom all blessings flow,  
Praise Him all creatures here below,  
Praise Him above ye heavenly host,  
Praise Father, Son and Holy Ghost.

"Let every thing that has breath praise the Lord, praise ye the Lord."

David had God's protection from the king of beasts and had God's help and protection in winning a victory over the giant. We are living in a country that is abundantly blessed with the temporal things of life, plus many spiritual blessings. If we accept them all we have great reason to "praise God from whom all blessings flow."

When the Apostle Paul and Silas were imprisoned for their work and obedience to the Lord, they sang praises to the Lord. Through the power of God, they were released. We could refer to other faithful servants of the Lord who had God's protection in this life. The most important for us is to have those blessings in this life that go on into eternity. Do we realize the importance of the honour and praise that we give to our Lord?

The Apostle Paul said to the Hebrew brethren, "I will declare thy name and will sing praise unto thee and offer the sacrifices of praise to God continually giving thanks to his name for with such sacrifices God is well pleased." We continue to owe praise, honour and glory to the Lord for the many blessings that He is extending to us. Heaven's glory is prepared for those who continue to live faithful in Christ Jesus. Back in the time of the apostles the whole congregation praised the Lord for His wonderful works. What is being done today for the many bountiful blessings He has given to us? We owe a hearty praise to our Lord with thanksgiving and honour. "Praise ye the Lord, for all the bountiful blessings He has given to us." We are living in a country that is abundantly blessed with temporal and spiritual blessings if we accept them.

I remember in the days of my youth the teachings of God's Word. Singing praises unto Him was taught in the home. We have good reason to praise the Lord for all the rich blessings that we have received during our life. Praise ye the Lord.

Brother J. F. Marks  
5225 Sundial Loop  
Plant City, FL 33566

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

May 15, 1926

### GOD'S STANDARDS

L. I. Moss

Jesus told the disciples, "the word which ye hear is not mine, but the Father's who sent me." John 14:24.

Our love for Jesus is measured by our obedience to the word. (John 14:21) "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me." The result of this kind of love draws out toward us, as obedient children the great love of God and Christ, as given in the last part of verse 21.

There is a standard of union and cooperation in verse 20. Let us consider a little.

"In that day ye shall know" Jesus had just taught them of the coming of the Holy Spirit, the Comforter. This is the time when they would know. Know what? I am in my Father, and ye in me, and I in you. Wonderful truth, the highest type of union. Upon this standard depends the success of a Christian life. Jesus then says in verse 23, "If a man loves me he will keep my word, and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him, and make our abode with him." Just see the companions the child of God may have day by day. The Holy Spirit or comforter, God the Father, and Jesus Christ. With these companions success is sure to the Christian. Love prompts obedience to the word, obedience brings this blessed companionship of the God-head. Then we can say with Paul (Gal. 2:20) "It is no longer I that live but Christ liveth in me."

Can I allow Jesus to come into my life and bar God out? Can I let God and Jesus in and bar the Holy Spirit out? We must all say, to reject one is to reject all. If we lose one as a companion, we lose all.

Do you think these three persons will abide in a heart when the Gospel is barred out? The answer would be no. Neither can we take the whole Gospel and bar either person of the God-head out.

The teaching of the chapter is from God. Then let us compare it with that prayer Jesus prayed for the same union and fellowship in John 17. I am sure if we take the teachings of this lesson and these scriptural texts, and apply them to our personal life, you will not need to question the standard of Christian life. Neither can we expect God to be pleased with our life if we fail to pattern our life after these standards. May God help us so to live that the Holy Spirit, Jesus Christ, and God may make their abode with us.

## THIS IS SPIRITUAL MATURITY

If you can see a work which you have begun taken from you and given to another without feeling bitterness — this is maturity.

If you can listen to someone criticize you even unkindly, and receive instruction from it without hard feelings — this is maturity.

If you can see another chosen for a job which you yourself are better qualified to do, without feeling hurt — this is maturity.

If you can feel an inward peace from God in an age of frustration — this is maturity.

If you can suffer nagging pain or ache still singing and praising God, hiding your feelings for the sake of others — this is maturity.

If you can crawl out of bed at an early hour to pray when you would like to sleep, because you realize that here lies power with God — this is maturity.

If you can give yourself to help someone else who needs you without having the idea you are a "pretty good fellow" — this is maturity.

Selected by Brother Lynn H. Miller

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

### The Old Testament

J. H. Moore

The Bible is divided into two general divisions, — the Old Testament and the New Testament. The former, beginning with Genesis and closing with Malachi, covers the whole period of the world's history from the creation to within about 400 years of Christ. For centuries it has been held that the first five books of the Old Testament, with the exception of the closing chapter of Deuteronomy, were written by Moses, or at least prepared under his instruction. In fact, Christ, who knew what he was talking about, repeatedly refers to Moses as the author of the books containing the law, or the Pentateuch, as these five books are commonly called. (See Luke 24:44 and John 5:46-47.) In Mark 12:26 Jesus calls Exodus "the book of Moses." In the time of Christ the Old Testament was divided into three parts — The Law, the Prophets, and the Psalms. The authorship of the law was ascribed to Moses, while the other parts were assigned to a number of authors; but all of the books, constituting the collection, were looked upon as inspired.

The Old Testament gives an account of God's dealings with his people during the Old Dispensation, and served its purpose as God's revelation to man for this period. Its teachings were more

especially adapted to Israel as a nation, and were meant to prepare a people for a more advanced revelation. Hence Paul says that "the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ" (Gal. 3:24). In preparing a people, and leading them up to Christ, to the higher plane, the law has been fulfilled; that is, it has served its purpose. Or, as Jesus once said: "The law and the prophets were until John" (Luke 16:16), therefore we are no longer under the law of Moses. The law, with its rites and ceremonies, has passed away, having been disannulled. Like an old institution, it has given place to a better covenant, and one "established on better promises" (Heb. 8:6). And since the Old Testament can not be regarded as our rule of faith and practice, we must naturally look to the New Testament.

## **NEWS ITEMS**

### **THANK YOU NOTE**

I want to say thanks to each and every one who sent me cards for my birthday.

Please continue to remember me in your prayers. I also want to thank all who visited me from time to time. It is worth so much to me.

Sister Mary Keller

### **THANK YOU**

I sincerely want to thank you for the prayers, cards and visits plus other gifts of love during my recent confinement from surgery. It was greatly appreciated. May God give an added blessing to each of you because of your love and concern for others.

Sister Alice Heisey

## **OBITUARY**

### **ANNA B. JOHNS**

Sister Anna B. Johns, age 76, of East Lincoln Avenue, Lititz, Pennsylvania passed away at home unexpectedly, March 7, 1986. She had been under a physician's care.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JUNE 1986**

June 1 - Prisoners of Jesus - Philippians 1:1-25.

1. For what purpose was Paul in prison?
2. What change had taken place in Onesimus? What brought about that change?

June 8 - The only begotten Son of God - Hebrews 1:1-14.

1. In what way did God speak to His people in the Old Testament?
2. In what way is Christ greater than the prophets?

June 15 - Father's Day - Gen. 22:1-13.

1. As a father, how did Abraham act in obedience to God's command?
2. Who would supply the lamb for the offering?

June 22 - Temperance - I Corinthians 9:1-27.

1. How do we define temperance? The Bible tells us we are to be temperate in all things.
2. Is a thing that is legal always right to engage in?

June 29 - The Great Salvation - Hebrews 2:1-8.

1. What makes our salvation so great? How does it differ from other religions?
2. What relation are we to Christ when we become a Christian?

**YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS  
FOR JUNE 1986**

June 1 - Attire - Deut. 22:5; Isaiah 3:18-23, Matt. 6:25-32; I Tim. 2:8-10.

1. Does the Bible teach that men and women are to dress alike?
2. How much thought should be given to our dress?

June 8 - Spiritual Foundation - Isaiah 28:16; I Cor. 3:10-15; I Tim. 6:18-19; II Tim. 2:19-26.

1. On what are we building? and what makes it sure?
2. Will it be alright to build on another foundation if we don't like the one spoken of in the lesson?

June 15 - Fathers - Gen. 18:19; Gen. 27: 26-27; I Kings 2:1-4; Acts 10:1-4.

1. What place does or should Father hold in the Home?
2. What advice did David give his son Solomon in I Kings 2:3.

June 22 - Christian Armour - Ephesians 6:10-24.

1. What is the purpose of wearing an armour?
2. What various parts of the body need protection that are so vital?

June 29 - Temperance - Prov. 23:1-3, 20-23, 29-32; Luke 21:34-36; Eph. 5:17-20.

1. What are some of the dangers of intemperate eating and drinking?
2. In I Cor. 10:31 what should our purpose be in eating and drinking?

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Cuba, New Mexico  
87013

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

JUNE 1, 1986

NO. 11

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## HELP ONE ANOTHER

Help us to help each other, Lord,  
Each other's cross to bear;  
Let each his friendly aid afford,  
And feel his brother's care.

Help us to build each other up,  
Our little stock improve;  
Increase our faith, confirm our hope,  
And perfect us in love.

Up into thee, the living Head,  
Let us in all things grow,  
Till thou hast made us free indeed,  
And spotless here below.

Then, when the mighty work is wrought,  
Receive thy ready bride:  
Give us in heav'n a happy lot  
With all the sanctified.

- Charles Wesley

## TWO ARE BETTER THAN ONE

The Wise Man, like many others, has seen the value of union. He declares that two are better than one. Read Ecclesiastes 4:9-12.

It is an obvious fact that most tasks can be completed quicker if there are two or more working at it. One by himself can accomplish only so much even if he is very diligent. Two may be able to accomplish even more than twice as much.

Solomon described several situations where two were better than one. He describes the reward that they will receive for their united labor. Each will be rewarded. That reward will probably be greater than what each could have earned by his single effort. Since they accomplish more together there was more for each. This would be true in financial, crops, or other areas where a pooling of resources will secure a larger income and bigger profit.

He also speaks of the help one can be to the other. If one is alone and falls there is no one to help him up. If two are there, there is one to help him up. If he can not regain his feet he can not continue to labor. If it takes a long time to regain momentum he will be behind. So with a helper nearby time will not be lost and serious injury or even death may be avoided. The work will yield its rewards that might otherwise be lost or diminished.

Cold nights can be very uncomfortable for one who is alone; especially if cold-blooded. A cold bed on a cold night is very uninviting. Although it may not come quickly the comforting heat will be there much sooner when there are two bodies to warm the bed. The body heat of each other will contribute to warming the

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

JUNE 1, 1986

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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bed and each other. Neither has really lost anything but both have gained.

In the matter of defense it is evident that two are better able to withstand an attack than one alone. This is true not only in military terms but in other endeavors as well where two can better stand against physical or Spiritual enemies together.

As a last illustration, Solomon speaks of a rope. One strand of rope will be strong enough to do certain jobs depending on its strength and age. Two strands braided with the first will make a rope capable of handling more than three times as much resistance.

With these various physical examples Solomon shows to us that two are better than one. We can also derive that this also applies to our Spiritual lives. Each must make his decision to be a child of God but if he wishes to be strong and useful he must be united with other like-minded children of God.

The work of the Church is seldom accomplished by one person. Even the ordinances of the Church demand the actions of at least two people to be carried out. Baptism, feet washing, holy kiss or whatever we consider must have at least two participants and even more are better. The more who labor for the Church's welfare, the more will be accomplished. When one or a few make the majority of the effort, the work suffers for all are needed to accomplish all that needs to be done.

General Conference is a time of the united efforts of many. The physical preparations for the meeting draws upon the skills of many people. The meeting itself demands the Spiritual talents of many including song leaders, teachers and ministers. The whole assembly is a help to those present as encouragement for each to continue in the way of right. The presence of each is an encouragement to each other for there are others who believe the same way, who do the same thing and who have the same problems and aspirations. They are as warmth to the cold and as support to the weak and as helpers to the stumbling.

The work of the Church is pushed forward by each one present. When problems confront the Church it is better to have the advice and help of two or more rather than depend upon one alone. General Conference can better see the overall significance of the questions before it than can an individual or even a congregation or District. Local situations and habits may prevent a clear view of the problem but a broader view drawn from across the Brotherhood may provide the answer that will solve the local problem.

It is good for each member to realize there are other members who have problems just like theirs. By being together in a meeting, whether a local weekly worship service, a District Meeting, a

Lovefeast Meeting, or General Conference, encouragement to continue is afforded.

Two are better than one. Even more are better than two. Each one adds strength for the task.

The Wise Man knew what he was speaking of. With his God-given wisdom, he could see the value of unity in the work of God's people. As those who have the wisdom imparted by the Holy Spirit we should also recognize it. We should profit by our meetings, local and Brotherhood wide. In unity is strength for two are better than one.

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **The kind of person God wants me to be... FAIR**

If we were to define fairness, we would say it is IMPARTIALITY IN DEALING WITH PEOPLE AND SITUATIONS. A fair person is one who is able to treat situations objectively, without reference to personal feelings or prejudices. He is unbiased, just and applies a right standard to the situation at hand that is beyond his personal preference. To be fair is a giant calling and a monumental responsibility.

In the Old Testament, fairness meant "lifting up the face." This would translate to receiving another person with favor. The New Testament uses the same phrase to speak about partiality and respect of persons... "receiving the face."

God is no respector of persons and neither can we be. He does not judge us on the basis of externals. It is not our rank, popularity or circumstances that affects God's judgment. Rather, He is interested in the character of our heart.

In reality, the Mosaic law is a revelation of the character of God. He commanded His children to be godly and we are taught to be "...holy, for I am holy." The law gives us absolute reference points for godly living. God made it clear through Moses that He deals with people impartially and expects us to do the same. Lev. 19:15 says, "... but in righteousness shall you judge your neighbor." God forbids us to make judgments based on social or popularity standing.

God has always been especially concerned that the leaders of His people exercise impartial judgment. Through Moses he taught us, "Thou shalt not wrest judgment; thou shalt not respect persons, neither take a gift: for a gift doth blind the eyes of the wise, and pervert the words of the righteous. That which is altogether just shalt thou follow, that thou mayest live, and inherit the land which the Lord thy God giveth thee." (Deut. 16:19-20) God did not want His children to suffer unfairly at the hands of opportunistic leaders.

This law is frequently broken today and in breaking it a leader disqualifies himself to serve in that capacity.

How often God must crash through the barriers of our prejudices to carry out His perfect plan. What we consider convictions are sometimes only well-formulated prejudices. Look at Peter. Like any good Jew, he felt that the Gentiles were one degree above a lower animal. He couldn't imagine God sending him to preach the gospel to such heathens but God taught him very important lessons in the acceptability of others.

The ultimate goal of the Jerusalem Council was to show that there were no second-rate citizens in the Kingdom of God. This should seem easy for us to understand but as it nearly fractured the New Testament community... so it would appear that we can be broken by it today.

Peter learned that God was looking for righteous character more than a national heritage. Paul explained to the Romans that God judges objectively and impartially. (Rom. 2:9-11) He told the Ephesians that the social rank of a person didn't determine his reward. (Eph. 6:8)

Could there be a greater example of injustice than the crucifixion of Christ? The crowd that was yelling "Crucify Him!" were the ones who deserved to die, not He. Everything there was totally unfair. It is a fact that those who are unjust often have a hard time recognizing justice. One of the criminals on the cross next to Jesus mocked Him and reviled Him for not saving them. The other one, however, realized that Jesus was being treated unfairly and realized they were receiving their just reward.

Look closely at your life. Most people are more prejudiced than they realize. They think their opinions can be based on cold logic. Jesus made a habit of challenging man-made traditions and ways of thinking. He defied those who were unwilling to change and embraced those who would take up their crosses and follow Him. How easy it is to use our prejudices to justify unkind treatment of others. We don't have to deal with people as individuals if we can disparage them with a well-defined treatise supporting our opinion or sin. Prejudices can only be covered by the precious blood of Jesus. They must be examined in the light of God's love.

You will never learn fairness in the public school system or out in the secular world. They are both full of greed and desire for personal gain. But in the church, Christ commands us to think of others before ourselves. Only as we die to our selfish interest can we exercise this important character trait. We have to receive in ourselves the sense of justice that is Christ's. To judge as He did will indeed bring us freedom. And no one is more free than the person whose emotions, knowledge and circumstances do not

keep him from living in Christlikeness. If we are led by the Spirit and not by our own preconceived ideas or emotional responses, we will be free to make right evaluations and relate to others in tenderness that reflects justice and mercy.

Brother Len Wertz

## LOVE COMES FIRST

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. First came God's love, then the gift of His Son. God's gift provided us with the plan of salvation, including forgiveness of our sins and eternal life. His love was manifested to us before we acknowledged our need of His forgiveness. "But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Rom. 5:8. Again we are reminded that love came first.

God was moved by His love to provide the help we needed. Love is the motivating factor in reaching out to others. Without that special love in our hearts, our efforts to help someone else will be futile, or at best, feeble. Love makes the difference between a genuine concern, and a soul-chilling, judgmental attitude. Love sees the wrong, but seeks to help anyway. Love avoids passing judgment and condemning. That true concern, based on Christian love, brings a good response, but condemnation turns people away.

If a person is lying in the gutter, and you just pass by, maybe giving him a kick as you do, that is judgment. You've judged that person to be unworthy of your love and concern. Your action shows to all that you want nothing to do with that person, that you are too good to be bothered with such a character. It shows your lack of love and compassion, just as it did when the priest and Levite ignored the needs of the man on the road to Jericho. See Luke 10:30-37.

Let's suppose you see that same person in the gutter, and even though it upsets you, you do what you can to help. You do this because, through love, you can see beyond the present state and realize there is a potential in that person. The present negative situation is not a hopeless state when the principles of God's love are applied. It will take a lot of prayer and daily concern to turn this life around, but because you love, you do what you can. You know the soul is worth saving, regardless of what sort the sin is.

We have all been in the gutter spiritually, and yet God loved us while we were "at the bottom". Not a one of us could remedy our situation and provide salvation for ourselves. It could only come by

God's provision, and it did come — because He loved us. He saw our sin, but wasn't turned away by it. Instead, He loved us in spite of our sin, so much so that He did not want us to remain in sin. God then made a way for us to get out of the gutter of sin.

"Hereby perceive we the love of God, because he laid down his life for us: and we ought to lay down our lives for the brethren." I John 3:16. God manifested, or made known, His love for us through the gift of His Son. We reveal our love (or the lack of it) by our actions also. Love comes first, then a response follows, whatever the relationship is, and we need to put first things first! Love melts away the resistance in a heart hardened by sin. We hinder God's work when we withhold love from our fellow-man, because He uses our love to reveal His.

A person who can help himself usually will unless there is no motivation. When a person is in the gutter spiritually, and maybe literally, loving help is needed. Self-help is not enough when it's the "end of the line". When someone truly cares about the "down-and-outer", it helps motivate him or her to better things. Again, love comes first. When no one else cares, usually we don't either, but being loved reinforces in us a desire to be the best we can be. Love succeeds when all else fails.

"That Christ may dwell in your hearts by faith; that ye, being rooted and grounded in love, may be able to comprehend — the far-reaching effects of — the love of Christ." (Eph. 3:17-19). Love is the foundation of all we do. It must come first. Without Christian love, our lives are like the house built on the sand. We'll be unstable, without strength and vitality. With love, we'll be long-suffering, kind, humble, unselfish, patient, able to endure in the Christian walk. This love is proof of discipleship (John 13:35) and definitely identifies us with Christ. Is His love first in your life?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

June 1, 1926

### THE OUTLOOK

B. E. Kesler

In view of the fact that another Conference of the "Bible Monitor" family is called to meet in the Plevna Church near Greentown, Indiana, June 23rd and 24th, it may be well to give a brief survey of the situation and an outlook for the future.

The "Monitor" has now been before the public and the church for almost four years and in its humble way has reminded us of

existing conditions and noted with much concern the introduction of customs and practices foreign to our former church polity and policy. Our motives have been impugned, and our purpose, misunderstood, and our intentions, grossly misrepresented, and our statements, misconstrued, all of which has tended to weaken faith in our efforts and to lessen confidence in our undertaking and to hinder the success of our work.

Some seem to look upon the work with a spirit of jealousy, some, seemingly, with disdain, scorn, and derision, and some in a quiet unassuming way have purposely thrown stumbling blocks in the way with a purpose, seemingly to hinder the success of the endeavor. Coercion in some instances has been used in an effort to suppress the work and to force nonaffiliation with the undertaking. With all this, it is a wonder the work still survives, and it would not were it not for the earnest efforts in its behalf by consecrated souls who have been and are sorely grieved and who sadly deplore the loss of unity and purity of the church, caused by those who are responsible for the introduction of the things that have destroyed that unity and purity.

Interested friends have volunteered to solicit subscriptions to the "Monitor," others have donated subscriptions to their special friends, others have sent in trial subscriptions, which in many instances resulted in the parties subscribing for themselves when the time expired. Still, others made outright donations. In this way we have not been, and are not now, financially embarrassed. Because of this we were enabled to enlarge the "Monitor" and to look forward with anticipation to the time when it may become a weekly in harmony with the earnest desire of many of its readers.

Hundreds of samples have been sent to parties whose names were sent in by their friends. In this way, too, many have learned to know of the "Monitor" and our work and become permanent subscribers. Many more could be reached in this way, and the "Monitor" find its way into the homes of the laity which has been our main objective.

Many criticisms, some adverse, but mostly favorable, have been received, from all of which an effort has been made to profit, and from which new courage has been taken and a greater determination has been resolved to continue the work until the dear Father shall send relief to his faithful children.

For want of time, many encouraging letters have not been answered, as, perhaps, they were expected, and probably should have been. So we take this time and space to express gratitude and appreciation for them all. These criticisms have tended to lend new courage, and a determination to put forth our best efforts to serve our people to the well-pleasing of our loving Father and the

encouragement of his faithful children who are grief stricken at the corruption and worldliness in his beloved zion for whom his Son gave his life.

Quite a wide range of latitude has been given our contributors in the discussion of various subjects. (Very few articles rejected.) This seemed necessary since a formal statement of principles and practices, except insofar as the Declaration of Principles in such statement, has not been formulated. And, as may naturally be expected has developed or manifested the fact of divergence of sentiment in some instances. This is characteristic of our church as a whole, due to the fact that the church has committed herself on a number of prominent doctrines of the Bible. We have been so wholly committed to the "no creed" idea that we have refused to formulate a statement on those doctrines.

If asked what is the position of the church on the Atonement, Millennium, Modernism, The Law of Moses, as it relates to this dispensation, and so forth, to what church production could one go for an authoritative answer. On such subjects individuals, papers, and schools are left free to advocate their own peculiar views, which always has and always will result in confusion. This was never more apparent than is now manifested in the unsettled and confused state of the church at the present time. The Lord only knows whither we are drifting and what we shall finally settle down upon as the embodiment of the doctrines and principles of the church.

We have drifted so far away from the faith of the fathers and former principles of our church that a return seems to be hopeless. So that if those principles are to be maintained in the world the Lord will have to raise up or reserve unto himself a body of people thru whom he can do it, for it is very evident it can never be done thru the present body.

### How It Has Been Done

Some wonder how the changes in the church in recent years have been brought about.

The answer is very simple. To illustrate: what might happen now, or may happen later on, if those who never have been in sympathy with the Eighteenth amendment but have always opposed it, and violate it when they dare, were given a vote on a referendum? Sad it will be for our nation when its policy and laws are dictated by law breakers! Should such insubordinates have a vote in such referendum? One who is not in sympathy with a law, but lives in obedience to it may well be accorded a vote to repeal it, but an insubordinate law-breaker has no such right.

This is the situation in our church pure and simple, because of defect in our system of government. There are persons who never

have been in sympathy, and never have conformed to some of the customs, doctrines, and practices of the church. We have no rules to prevent, or usage to debar such insubordinates to write or speak against such doctrines, and so forth, or to hinder them from voting in Conference on their repeal.

In this way, thru private influence, by writing, by speaking, and finally by vote in Conference, by many who have never been obedient and submissive, many of the principles of the church and former usages have, in recent years, been ignored, discarded, and finally repealed by action of Conference.

This will continue to be the case until a form of government is adopted to prevent it. May the Lord deliver us from the domination of the disobedient and insubmissive who are "self-willed and despise government"!

## MULTIPLE CHOICE RELIGION

Proverbs 12:15, "The way of a fool is right in his own eyes: but he that harkeneth unto counsel is wise."

We recall when we were in school that one of our favorite types of tests was the multiple choice questions. If you had studied, the correct answer was at your fingertips. This was much easier than remembering many facts and figures without an aid.

In the earthly church there is presently a "multiple choice" given at various types of meetings. There is one serious problem with this though. More often than not, it would seem, the correct answer is not among the choices you are given. We recall a situation in which several pictures of Jesus were shown and we were given a choice of choosing which one looked the closest to our image of Christ. At the time we were fooled into making a choice. Years later we realized our error. We cannot take a man's concept of what Christ looked like and make a judgment upon it. For one thing every picture presented had long hair on Jesus. We seriously doubt that Jesus Christ had long hair. (We do believe that he had a beard despite what some fundamentalists and holiness individuals teach).

Our opening verse tells us that "the way of a fool is right in his own eyes." We know that Jesus instructed us in Matthew 5:22 "But I say unto you, That whosoever is angry with his brother without a cause shall be in danger of the judgment: and whosoever shall say to his brother, Racca, shall be in danger of the council: but whosoever shall say, Thou fool, shall be in danger of hell fire." Two things are important in understanding this verse. First of all Jesus is talking about "without a cause." In Luke 24, the disciples had contact with the risen Christ. In verse 25 he said to them, "... O

fools, and slow of heart to believe all that the prophets have spoken."

One of the multiple choices given today is the choice between humanistic evolution and theistic evolution. The correct answer, Divine Creation, is missing. Another multiple choice given is who is the correct author of various books of the Bible. The fact that all the writers wrote under the leading of the Holy Spirit is not given as an alternative.

Individuals are given a choice between political pacifism and the just war theory. Biblical nonresistance, the true teaching, is absent. As far as political pacifism is concerned, the choice between this and the just war teaching is becoming harder and harder to distinguish. Violence is supported in both instances. It now is only a matter of WHO is doing the violence! We are told in a very subtle way that we are not to judge those who use violence because we are not perfect ourselves. It is true that it is only through the grace of God that we are saved and not because of human works. In Romans 6:1 and 2 Paul tells us, through the Holy Spirit, "What shall we say then? Shall we continue in sin, that grace may abound? God forbid. How shall we that are dead to sin, live any longer therein?" Jesus Christ told us in Matthew 5:45 that we must practice Biblical nonresistance "That ye may be the children of your Father which is in heaven:..." We are not about to judge the salvation of those who take human life in the name of their country or for revolution against an unjust government, but we take this verse very seriously. We will not guarantee salvation to any individual who willfully takes a human life and does not repent of such.

We have already alluded to our next multiple choice. The choice between spiritual perfection in this life and never going beyond the point of being a sinner. In II Corinthians 5:17 we are told, "Therefore if any man (or woman) be in Christ, he (or she) is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold all things become new." This scriptural alternative is never mentioned or is explained away. How DO we reconcile the clear teaching that we still have a human tendency to sin with this verse? We believe one of the problems in the confusion between temptation to sin and actually sinning. When Jesus said in Matthew 5:28 "But I say unto you, That whosoever looketh on a woman to lust after her hath committed adultery with her already in his heart," he was not talking about temptation but an act of lust. This is not to say that a Christian cannot fall victim to this sin of lust. But if he does he had better repent of it and seek to overcome it by the grace of God. We cannot justify another's sin because of a weakness we may have. In doing so we usually turn things around and say, "I'm not so bad after all."

Following this we have Christ saying in verse 29 "And if thy right eye offend thee, pluck it out, and cast it from thee; for it is profitable for thee that one of thy members should perish, and not thy whole body should be cast into hell." (the word "that" appears in italics after "not".) The multiple choice given is between taking this "literally" or merely as an example. The same holds true for the next verse concerning the right hand. We believe the correct answer is that taken in the context Christ IS speaking literally. This does not mean that we should pluck out our eye or cut off our hand, but realize that IF DOING THIS WOULD KEEP US OUT OF HELL it would be worth it!

We could give many other examples of multiple choices given without a correct answer. But perhaps the most serious is a series of ways to reach Heaven without the choice of accepting the Lord Jesus Christ and His shed blood given as an answer. This, of course, is the only correct answer. Have you answered this question in the affirmative? If not a "multiple choice religion" will not hold out on judgment day.

James M. Hite  
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## UNDERSTANDING THE ELEMENTS OF MUSIC

Music is something in which we all can participate during our worship services. In a previous article, we discussed some of the mysteries of music, such as the difference between the tune and the poem, names of hymns, Gregorian Chants, and meter. In this article, we take up a discussion of the elements of music. For our examples, we will refer to the 1901 black "Brethren Hymnal." Examples of hymn numbers where the item under discussion can be found will be indicated by parenthesis. The following paragraphs refer to Hymn Number 1.

The five lines with the four spaces make up the staff. Most hymns in the Black Hymnal have the words between two staves which are connected by a double line. This is known as a Grand Staff, or Great Staff. Each line and space are assigned letter names from "A" to "G". Each letter represents a certain pitch. The backwards written "S" stands for "Treble Clef." The curled-up backwards "C" is the "Bass Clef." The clefs fix the position of the notes on the staff.

Next we see a weird looking small "b". Some hymns have a thing like this: "#". These signs serve to set the "key" to the hymn and are known as the "Key-signature." The "key" sets the position of the

tones in the musical scale. Did you ever sing a hymn, and it got so high that nobody could reach the notes, or so low that the meaning of the hymn was lost somewhere down in the basement? In most cases, when the hymns are sung "on key," everybody will easily be able to reach all the notes. As a result, the meaning of the hymn will be felt, instead of concentrating on straining your vocal cords to reach notes out of the human voice range. Song leaders often use a "pitch pipe" to find the key to the hymn.

In hymn number 1, the number "3" appears after the key-signature. Other numbers appear at the head of other hymns. The "3" is over a quarter note. Other hymn books write the 3 over a 4. This is known as the "time signature," and indicates how many beats there are to each measure. The measures are divided off by vertical lines on the staff. Each measure in a tune has the same number of beats as every other measure in that tune. The 3 signifies there are 3 beats to each measure. The quarter note (or 4) means that the beat is on the quarter note.

Next we see the notes. They are the open and closed dots in the funny shapes. Most of the dots have vertical lines (or stems) on them, and on top of some of the stems are flags. Each different kind of note is worth a certain number of beats. The solid black note with the stem is the quarter note, which is one beat. The open notes with stems are worth two beats. The solid notes with flags are each valued at one-half beat. Two of these must be sung in one beat. When a song-leader waves his hand, he is beating the time. An audience who knows their music will easily be able to follow. In this way, everybody starts, stops, and sings together!

It is important that the timing of a hymn be sung as it is written. Singing too slowly will effectively kill the meaning and spirit of the hymn. Dragging through a hymn leaves one wondering when it will be over rather than concentrating on the words and thinking about glorifying God. Singing too rapidly leaves everybody breathless at the end. Each hymn should be sung in a manner appropriate to its meaning. The song leader should decide this, and the congregation should follow. For example, "I'll Count My Blessings" (47) should be sung in a spirited manner. We are meeting together to praise God! But "'Tis Midnight, and on Olive's Brow" (157) should be sung slowly and very thoughtfully as our minds are drawn toward Christ's suffering in the Garden of Gethsemane.

At the very end of Hymn Number 1, we see two heavy vertical bars. This "double bar" means that the verse is ended.

Brother Robert Lehigh

## SAFELY HOME

I am home in Heaven, dear ones;  
All's so happy, all's so bright!  
There's perfect joy and beauty  
In this everlasting light.

All the pain and grief are over,  
Every restless tossing passed;  
I am now at peace forever,  
Safety home in Heaven at last.

Did you wonder I so calmly  
Trod the Valley of the Shade?  
Oh! but Jesus' love illumined  
Every dark and fearful glade.

And He came Himself to meet me  
In the way so hard to tread;  
And with Jesus' arm to lean on,  
Could I have one doubt or dread?

Then you must not grieve so sorely,  
For I love you dearly still;  
Try to look beyond earth's shadows,  
Pray to trust our Father's will.

There is work still waiting for you,  
So you must not idle stand;  
Do your work while life remaineth —  
You shall rest in Jesus' land.

When that work is all completed,  
He will gently call you home;  
Oh, the rapture of the meeting!  
Oh, the joy to see you come!

We, the family, would like to thank you for all your cards, prayers and visits while our father was ill and after his passing. May God bless you for your thoughtfulness.

Gerald and Lois Royer

Alvin and Mary Ellen Chupp and family

Elden and Judy Royer and family

## OBITUARY

### NATHAN ROYER

Bro. Nathan David Royer, son of Roscho and Susan Royer, was born in Dallas County, Iowa, May 29, 1909. On May 3, 1986 he passed away in the same house in which he was born and spent his entire life of 76 years, 11 months and 4 days.

He was united in marriage to Grace Moss on September 21, 1933. She preceded him in death on August 4, 1948. He is survived by Gerald and Lois Royer of Dallas Center, Iowa; Mary Ellen Chupp and husband Alvin of Dallas Center, Iowa and Elden and wife Judy of Adel, Iowa.

His life was spent farming as long as his health permitted.

In 1940 he joined the Dunkard Brethren Church. He served as a deacon and treasurer for many years.

Besides his children he leaves one sister, Anna Mary Winger of Grants Pass, Oregon, nine grandchildren: Dan Chupp of Quinter, Kansas; Don, Cynthia, Laura, Brian and Ryan Chupp of Dallas Center, Iowa; Brenda, Anthony and Duane Royer of Adel, Iowa and two great grandchildren: Justin and Tiffany Chupp of Quinter, Kansas.

Services were held at the Dunkard Brethren Church, Dallas Center, Iowa on May 6. Bro. Fred Pifer officiated with Bro. Joseph Flora and Bro. Ray Reed assisting. Burial was in the Brethren Cemetery.

## NEWS ITEMS

### MECHANICSBURG, PENNSYLVANIA

The Mechanicsburg Congregation is again looking forward to having Brother Paul Stump in our midst for a ten day revival, beginning July 4 and to continue to July 13, 1986. We welcome all to come and enjoy these services with us. Please pray for these meetings and the speaker that he may not shun to preach the whole Gospel of Christ.

Sister Mary Hartz, Cor.



Greatest evils oft begin in some unsuspected sin.

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# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

JUNE 15, 1986

NO. 12

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## THERE'S A WIDENESS IN GOD'S MERCY

There's a wideness in God's mercy,  
Like the wideness of the sea;  
There's a kindness in his justice,  
Which is more than liberty.

There is welcome for the sinner,  
And more graces for the good;  
There is mercy with the Savior;  
There is healing in his blood.

For the love of God is broader  
Than the measure of man's mind;  
And the heart of the Eternal  
Is most wonderfully kind.

If our love were but more simple,  
We should take him at his word;  
And our lives would be all sunshine  
In the sweetness of our Lord.

- Frederick W. Faber

## GIFTS

Everyone likes to receive gifts. No matter how old or young, a gift is appreciated. Even if not needed, the reflection of warmth of someone's concern in the gift makes it enjoyable. Children especially look forward to occasions when they expect presents. Even older folks like presents although it may not be the objects that they like most. It may be a visit, a flower, attention or a favorable response to an oft-told tale.

Gifts may be given with an ulterior motive. Gift givers often give with the hope of a gift in return. Then they are no longer gifts but exchanges. Sales representatives may provide meals or other services with the hope of securing a lucrative order. Others give gifts to gain attention. It may be to secure publicity as a generous person. It may be just to be highly thought of.

These reasons are not for the Christian. There are many Bible passages that enjoin the Christian to be generous. The Christian can realize that whatever he has, has been given undeservedly to him, for his good by God. Realizing they have been given to him, he can in turn share what he has with others. The Christian graces include love. Love may be demonstrated by gift-giving. The Christian seeks the well being of others so he is willing to give.

One who would be a giver must first be a receiver. The giver must have something to give. If he has nothing to give, his good intentions may be praised but he has not accomplished anything. Those who pray for the fulfillment of others' needs but do not relieve that need might be well-intentioned but the hungry and cold are still hungry and cold. There must be an action to go with the

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

JUNE 15, 1986

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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intention. The poor can do little to relieve the need of other poor.

Social programs fail to provide for the needs of the poor or other needy, even if well-intentioned. They fail because they are often a political response to a problem created by Spiritual disobedience. They ignore the Spiritual seat of problems and attempt through money and organization to cure problems of the inner man. The inner man's problem can not be solved with material programs. The gifts must fit the need if it is to be a useful gift.

Some may be niggardly in their giving. They fear if they give too much away they won't have enough for themselves. But hoarders often find their caches depleted anyway and their mental anguish may ruin any enjoyment they might have had from their horde.

The Christian has a perfect pattern to follow in his giving. God has outgiven all others. He has given the world itself and all its material advantages. Most importantly He has not only created man to live in this world, but He has not forgotten man. Individuals are in the mind and memory of God. Although He made the universe He is still mindful of the individual. Because of this care and concern He has given the greatest of all gifts.

Knowing the frame and tendencies of man, God has given His only begotten Son so men may be reconciled to Him. His love for individual men compelled Him to pay the highest price possible. Whatever other sacrifices might have been made for man's redemption — none could be found that was untainted by sin. Only Jesus filled the requirement of sinless perfection, demanded by God's justice.

God's justice demanded a sacrifice for man's sin that only God's love could fulfill. Although undeserving, man has been the recipient of God's extraordinary love gift — His Son. Through His Grace and Mercy the plan of salvation has been given to man. It now requires the acceptance by sinful man to do him the intended good. God's gift was not sent because man deserved it in the least nor was His gift even desired.

Too often people have their hearts and minds set on material gifts when they should desire the gift God has given. Their fleshly lusts and worldly desires cause them to lose sight of the most important part of their existence — their eternal souls. The ones who have received this gift should in turn be the most giving. They have received much so they have much to give.

God can not be outgiven. He has given the only gift that can redeem a sin stained soul. When that gift is received, a new life, both inward and outward, will be lived. In turn that gift may be shared with others, so more lives in turn may be changed. God's love gift is the greatest gift ever given. This is the impetus behind the gifts men share with others.

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The kind of person God wants me to be... RESPONSIBLE

Responsibility is shown in our lives by being reliable, trustworthy and loyal to the cause of Christ. The root word of responsibility, however, reveals one difference... and that is response. Responsibility contains a strong sense of accountability.

A response is an answer. A responsible individual knows he must answer and he has a strong sense of personal accountability. He knows what is expected of him and he is WILLING to fulfill it. He has this sense inside him and thus he doesn't need someone standing over him to force him on. It is unfortunate so many Christians have to be prodded like cattle to forge ahead for the Lord. Why can't we willingly accept the jobs that are ours and carry them through to completion with all the vigor within us? We need to accept those things which are committed to us, whether it is a talent, personal property, information or an assignment, with proper respect to the person to whom we are committed.

A responsible person has an inner drive which does not need constant prodding. He performs without the external motivation needed by someone who lacks responsibility.

Responsibility is best tested when Mom and Dad are not present or when the boss is not watching. Ruth was committed and responsible. She would not abandon her mother-in-law under any circumstances. Joseph was responsible when he kept his moral purity even when he was away from home and nobody would have known what he did. To bear responsibility is to bear the suffering which accompanies any great assignment. Esther was a responsible person, although it meant possible death. Responsible people complete the task which is before them.

Responsibility means you will accept who you are and what gifts you have and you will put them to use for God. Each one of us has been entrusted with a gift from God. He has invested in our lives. Not to fulfill the purpose for which we have been created is to squander that investment. It is living irresponsibly and ungodly.

A RESPONSIBLE PERSON ACCEPTS BLAME WHEN HE IS GUILTY. Sin is a failure to act responsibly toward God even as repentance is acceptance of responsibility toward Him. We ARE responsible for our actions and also for a change in our behavior.

A RESPONSIBLE PERSON DOES NOT LIVE ONLY FOR HIMSELF but he is also genuinely interested in others. Cain could not bear being his "brothers keeper" and thus became an epitome of irresponsibility. As we bear one another's burdens, exhort one another and submit to one another, we become responsible for each other.

Irresponsible persons always blame others and excuse themselves. Aaron was asked by Moses why he made the golden calf. Even though he was the anointed high priest he blamed the people for his action. Pilate was the governor of the province of Israel and he had authority to release or condemn Jesus. Yet he washed his hands of the matter, refusing to accept responsibility for Christ's crucifixion.

As we mature physically and chronologically, we move from a state of greater irresponsibility to responsibility. Basically, an infant is not responsible for anything... hopefully, an adult can assume responsibility for his life. A lot of childish adults exist today and these people overemphasize their "rights" rather than their responsibilities. We, as adults, ARE responsible for our thoughts, words, and actions. We can't blame others for our irresponsibility.

Luke 16:12 teaches us that we are responsible for what belongs to others. I believe the way we treat the property of others is a valid barometer of the way we will treat what God gives us.

Be responsible because of God's judgment now and in the future. Understand accountability and maintain proper restraint in light of that accountability. Guard your words knowing they will return to you at the time of the judgment. Be careful of your thought and heart intents as God knows them as well as your actions.

If responsible people were ever needed in the church it is today. The church is crying out for leaders. It is only as you live responsibly that you will be qualified to lead. A leader takes responsibility not only for himself... but he also becomes responsible for others in the Body of Christ.

The more you exercise responsibility, the more authority God will give you... and the wider your responsibility will extend.

Are you exercising this quality in your life? When God calls on you are you responding? Can He say something to you and get obedience? Can He count on your positive response? Pray that God might lead you to the greatest height possible in this important character quality. Be the kind of person God wants you to be.

Brother Len Wertz



Don't be fooled by a pretty face;  
Look for character and grace.

## GRASPING THE MESSAGE OF MUSIC

In two previous articles about music, we discussed tunes, poems, meter, elements of music, pitch, and timing. Now we will take a look at how all this can serve to bring out the meaning of a hymn in a worship service.

In some hymns, there are symbols or words which instruct the singer about how he should be singing. We will mention some of the more common ones.

"A tempo" (See Hymn Number 233 in the 1901 black "Brethren Hymnal" for an example): Return to the preceding pace.

"Crescendo" or < (233): Increasing in loudness.

"Diminuendo" or > (233): Diminishing in loudness.

"f" (233): Sing loud and strong.

"Hold" or ~ (43): Hold the note over which this symbol is placed.

"Moderato" (170): Sing this hymn at a moderate rate of speed, not too fast.

"pp" (124): Pianissimo; sing very quietly.

"Rit." or "Ritard" (83): Slow down the tempo; sing slower.

"Spirited" (226): Sing the hymn with spirit and energy.

Sometimes there will be a word or words at the beginning of a hymn describing how it is to be sung. Some which appear in the Black Hymnal are "Slow" (392), "Not too fast, but strong" (337), "Tenderly" (677), "With expression" (466), and "Thoughtfully" (678). These symbols and words should be heeded. In this way, the meaning of the hymn can be more fully sensed.

Before concluding this discussion on music, there are a few pointers for the song leaders which should be considered. Song leading is a calling. Those who lead singing should take this calling seriously. Realize that singing hymns is an act of worshipping God, and also serves to prepare people's hearts for the preaching.

A song leader is to be a leader. He should lead the singing and the congregation should follow. There is a lot more to leading than merely starting the songs. A good understanding of the basics of music will help one become a successful leader. A good song leader has a deep desire to help others receive the joy that comes from praising and worshipping God. In order to lead a congregation in worshipping God, a song leader must have fully dedicated his life to Christ.

The song leader interprets each hymn for the occasion, that it may be sung most meaningfully. The tempo and volume may be varied, and expression may be given to particularly meaningful

words or phrases. The message of a hymn is in the words, while the music serves as the vehicle to bring out the meaning. The goal is that each worshipper would get the full meaning out of the hymn.

Another purpose of song leading is that everyone will stay together. There is much more of an attitude of worship when everyone starts and stops singing together. When the pitch and tempo are correct, the people are free to concentrate on the message of the hymn. There is then freedom to worship God instead of thinking about the distractingly hitch pitch or slow tempo. God will then be glorified by our worship of Him!

I believe that a basic understanding of music will lead to a greater spirit of worship in our church services. The Bible instructs us to speak to ourselves "in psalms and hymns and spiritual songs, singing and making melody in your heart to the Lord." Ephesians 5:19. David said in Psalms 89:1, "I will sing of the mercies of the Lord forever: with my mouth will I make known thy faithfulness to all generations." Let us go on our way singing to the Lord!

Brother Robert Lehigh

## DEPARTING FROM THE FAITH

Perilous times have come. Many of us have witnessed a falling away and a departing from faith in the saving Gospel of Christ. For salvation, we need the faith once and for all delivered unto the saints. We have many warnings in the Gospel to not believe every spirit but try the spirits whether they are of God because many false prophets are gone out into the world. "Hereby know ye the Spirit of God: Every spirit that confesseth that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is of God: And every spirit that confesseth not that Jesus Christ is come in the flesh is not of God: and this is that spirit of antichrist, whereof ye have heard that it should come; and even now already is in the world."

Much of the falling away and departing from the faith in our time came because many of the rising generation did not want to keep the blessed example of their faithful foreparents and compromised with the evils of the world. The Psalmist David says "Depart from evil, and do good; and dwell for evermore." "Depart from me, ye evildoers: for I will keep the commandments of my God." Professing Christians who compromise and accept the evils of the world for their way of life are not on the way to the eternal, glorious Home. Perilous times have come and many have given heed to seducing spirits and doctrines of devils, spreading lies in hypocrisy, having their consciences seared with a hot iron. Also they are lovers of their own selves, fierce despisers of those who are good Christians. For many, love has waxed cold.

True faith produces peace, joy, hope and many other blessings. If we have the faith once delivered unto the saints we will not oppose the works of righteousness. "Blessed are those that hunger and thirst after righteousness for they shall be filled."

In our lifetime we have seen great changes taking place among professing Christians. We should not accept man made theories in religion. Professing Christians who fail to keep the commandments of the saving Gospel of Christ are missing the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus. "Love not the world neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world, the love of the Father is not in him." The true Christian love of many has waxed cold.

Satan sometimes appeared as an angel of light when Christ was here on earth. Satan came to Him in person and tried to overcome Him with his deceitfulness but failed to overcome our Saviour.

We should keep ourselves in the love of the Lord and opposed to all unrighteousness. Let us not be among those who may be receiving strong delusions to believe a lie and in the end be damned. Disobedient, professing Christians have lost their favour with God. They have heaped to themselves teachers having itching ears, denying the Lord that bought them with His own blood. The call is "Therefore, my beloved brethren, be ye stedfast, unmoveable, always abounding in the work of the Lord, forasmuch as ye know that your labour is not in vain in the Lord."

We should always promote and uphold the faith once delivered unto the saints. The way of the cross leads home, it is sweet to know as we onward go.

For those who escaped the pollutions of the world and are again entangled, the latter end is worse than the beginning. The dog has returned again to his vomit and the sow to her wallowing in the mire. It would have been better for them if they would have never known the way of truth. Many are controlled by man made theories that are contrary to the saving Gospel of Christ. Some shall arise and speak perverse things to draw men unto them. They will not escape if they neglect so great salvation.

True Christians will only accept the way of truth and righteousness. For what shall it profit a man if he shall gain the whole world with all its sin and lose his own soul. "Pride goeth before destruction, and an haughty spirit before a fall." There are many deceivers in the world but by their fruits ye shall know them.

There is no promise of the crown of righteousness for apostates who shall turn their ears away from the truth and turn unto fables. Have we accepted and are we controlled by the saving Gospel of Christ or by man made theories in religion? Are we pressing onward and forward toward the mark of the prize of the high calling

of God in Christ Jesus?

Although great changes have taken place, God is still calling for a people to be separated from the evils of the world and live godly in Christ Jesus. Wherefore come out from among them saith the Lord almighty and be ye separate. We need the help and holy guidance of our Creator to stand the trials and temptations in this life's pathway to receive the Blessed, Eternal Reward.

Brother J. F. Marks  
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## SIXTY YEARS AGO

June 15, 1926

### WHOM WILL WE SERVE?

J. H. Crofford

Our eternal future depends upon whom we serve. Our service must be confined to one master. "No man can serve two masters for either he will hate the one and love the other, or else he will hold to the one and despise the other. Ye cannot serve God and mammon."

The tendency of wealth or mammon, is to elevate mentally, make feel independent and rob the possessor of that one important Christian grace, humility which evidences the subject to be a child of God. This grace is accompanied with contentment, peace and submission to the will of God, and, "Whosoever shall humble himself as this little child, the same is greatest in the kingdom of heaven."

The person whose mind and time are taken up in serving mammon, and become wealthy, become heady, high minded and averse to anything of an humble nature, and naturally despise serving the Master, the teacher of humility. How comprehensive now, is the language of Jesus: "How hardly shall they that have riches enter into the kingdom of God!" "It is easier for a camel to go through the eye of a needle, than for a rich man to enter into the kingdom of God." But it is within God's province to take away that wealth or the desire for its worship and supplant it by humility.

How many things we must watch and battle against serving; it may be a person who has won our confidence by a display of superior talent, because of which, we consider that he knows, and we readily accept his theories and do his bidding. We recall the circumstance on the mount of transfiguration, when Elias and Moses appeared on the scene. The attitude of Peter towards these

two men was to place them on an equality with Jesus, and erect a tabernacle for each of them, which would have meant three forms of worship — the perpetuation of the observance of the Mosaic law, the preparatory service of the age of John the Baptist, and the serving of Jesus. The reproof came to Peter not from Jesus, but direct from God: "This is my beloved Son; hear (obey) him."

It being established now whom we shall serve or obey, we find everything essential to our salvation contained within His will —the New Testament. Then why do so many quote from the Old Testament to lay burdens upon us grievous to be born? We cannot serve under the old Mosaical law and the dispensation of grace both. Let us confine our service to the teachings of Christ.

"The law and the prophets were until John: since that time the kingdom of God is preached." Jesus says: "Think not that I have come to destroy the law, or the prophets: I come not to destroy, but to fulfill. Till heaven and earth pass, one jot or one title shall in no wise pass from the law, till all be fulfilled." These sayings have direct reference to the old law, and just as immutable as was every jot and title of the law, is our obedience to the conditions of salvation under the dispensation of grace.

Jesus was upon the earth during the preparatory age, preparing for the church age, during which time he was obedient to the old law, and not yet having completed the plan of redemption, could at that time only refer his inquirer of the essentials to salvation, to the obedience to the law and a sacrificing of what he was worshipping; and following Him which would lead him naturally to the essentials under the church age or dispensation of grace, — the new birth as he later instructed Nicodemus.

The thought of the writer is, to have us understand that we must worship only God according to his plans for the present dispensation through love with fear and trembling. A love that worketh a filial fear, a holy affection, and not a fear to flee from him. The church is the bride of Christ and no bride with a pure love for the bridegroom, feels otherwise than to do the things which are pleasing to him; she does them not as a burden but a pleasure. With such a motive there is no burden to our service; it is a pleasure to serve him: "His yoke is easy and his burden is light."

Love is the fulfilling of the law: with our hearts filled with love our attitude towards the world is to do them no evil, to be subject to the higher powers and thereby establish our citizenship by obeying the commands as recorded in Romans 13. With love for our fellow man, we cannot do otherwise. These are the commands governing our lives towards the world.

Under the dispensation of grace we serve through love and we are saved by grace. With our hearts full of the love of God, we

cannot do otherwise than try to observe the ordinances and commands given to the church under the Gospel dispensation, essential to our salvation. With a lack of that love you feel you need not salute your brother; you cannot wear the prayer veil; you refrain from engaging in questionable conduct; you must convert the houses of worship into places of amusement; you cannot conform to the plain attire as required by the church. Right here let it be said: Some of the very members who refused to come in the order, readily donned the attire required by the Red Cross during the war, and since, the hideous gown and cap, which they could not be persuaded to wear for the church, for a secret order.

If we are born again, and guided by the Holy Spirit, we will not be led by the lusts of the eye, the lusts of the flesh and the pride of life; we will serve God.

## DEALING WITH THE CULTS

Matthew 16:18, "And I say unto thee, That thou art Peter, and upon this rock I will build my church; and the gates of hell shall not prevail against it."

II Corinthians 13:5, "Examine yourselves, whether ye be in the faith; prove your own selves, how that Jesus Christ is in you, except ye be reprobates."

Ephesians 4:15, "But speaking the truth in love, may grow up into him in all things, which is the head, even Christ."

The day was Friday. We were busy trying to get things assembled to go uptown and take care of our semi-weekly business. In the midst of our hurrying a knock came on the door. Upon answering it we were cheerfully greeted by two women. Their outward appearance gave no indication who they were. They could have been salesladies for a cosmetic company or a member of any of the various local churches. But it soon became obvious that we had another visit from the Jehovah Witnesses.

Since I was very busy my first impulse was to tell them I did not agree with their brand of theology and send them on their way. But something inside of me said that I should take the time to share the truth of the Word. So I excused myself and went in to get my Bible. After they left I was left with deep mixed emotions. Was it really worth my time to try to share the truth with them? This question along with my other thoughts has led to this writing we wish to share. This will not be a grand treatise filled with all the perfect answers. In fact it may raise more questions than answers that are given. It is simply a sharing of personal feelings after my encounter with members of a cult.

One of the first things we did was to share our "perfect" text from

John 8:24-27. This had caused another Jehovah Witness great confusion. But not these two. They calmly informed me that I was making Jesus say something he really had not said. I, of course, remain unconvinced. But the important thing we wish to stress is that this portion of the Word of God did not convince them of the error of denying the deity of Jesus Christ. So we went to a "proof text" to substantiate our claim. There was no way they could get around John 1:1. We quickly informed them that their New World Translation was in error in calling Jesus "a God" as their "bible" states, then there are more than one God. Since we were in a hurry we were not completely open to the leading of the Holy Spirit and PERHAPS missed a great opportunity. Be that as it may, the two women left more convinced than ever that they were following the truth.

So how DO we deal with the cults when we come into contact with them? We do not believe there is any one easy answer. If you study the books and writings on dealing with the cults it becomes more complex rather than enlightening, at least in our mind. Some of these writings will inform you that refusal to bear arms to defend your country or to salute the flag of your nation is a sign of a cult. This puts us in the category of a cult! Others will subtly suggest that having "special rules" makes you a cult. While we realize that there is room for disagreement concerning "church rules" they have often provided needed "fences." Baptism is another area that is often considered cultic when it is seen as being part of our salvation. What we are saying is some would end up putting Conservative Brethren in the category of "cult." Although they would not come right out and say this.

Then there is the question of what category you put the liberals, who also deny the deity of Jesus Christ, into? Many different versions of the Bible has certainly added to the confusion. But the liberal movement, and the majority of the cults, used the King James Version at one time. So the correct version does not guarantee correct theology. However I would quickly add that with the possible exception of the Mormons, the modernist liberals and cults despise the King James Version. For this reason, among others, we feel this is the best translation available. There is also the reality that interpretation is a key factor in what we believe.

With these thoughts in mind we would now like to briefly look at our opening verses in light on our subject. Our first verse deals with the fact that the church is built on Jesus Christ. Therefore, the teachings of the cults are built on sand. In Isaiah 49:26 states "... I the Lord am thy Saviour and thy Redeemer,..." There is no question who the New Testament names as our Saviour and Redeemer.

Our second verse deals with the fact that we must examine

ourself; (in the light of the Word), to see if we are in the faith. Are we really willing to do this? Have we allowed self to be an idol? Are there areas of our life where we are no different than the false cults?

Our final verse speaks of the need of speaking the truth in love. My visitors complimented us on our attitude. We give the Spirit the praise for any love we may have expressed. We must hate the false teachings, not those who teach it. But we must also remember that real truth will often "hurt."

In conclusion, we dare not always expect success when presenting the truth to someone who has fallen for error. The end result lies with them. If we have truthfully shared the reality of Jesus Christ, who he is, along with a personal testimony the blood is not on our hands. In the end we must remember "and few there be who find it" (the true way). If you have not accepted the shed blood of Jesus Christ for your sins we urge you to do so.

James M. Hite  
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Palmyra, PA 17078

## WHAT ARE OUR VALUES?

Upon arising another day, the sun has risen, the birds are praising God, the cattle roam contentedly in the lush fields, and there is plenty of work awaiting me as a mother, but yet the question has come to my mind for several weeks, "What are our values?"

Value is defined as cost, importance, worth. If something is costly, it means a lot to us and yet it is worth something to us.

Some days we have a full list of things that should be done, but yet when we go over that list we usually pick out the most vital or valuable things that must be done and do those first.

Did you ever watch a mother bird after her young have hatched? She doesn't forget about them and fly away to find something else to do. No, she values her young. She feeds and cares for them until they leave the nest.

What is the value of our life? Our life is only a vapor that appears for a little while and then vanishes away.

Many are sick and in hospitals or nursing homes who sit lonely hours waiting for someone to talk to. What would we rather value: to sit in an easy chair and read meaningless books or to cheer someone today. Many times when I was in high school, I would be asked, "What do you do with your time? Your life seems so dull and boring!" My answer always contained: "There is no idle time for me." We can sing, write letters, visit others, or lend a helping

hand to those about us in need. There is NO TIME TO SIT IDLE! Idleness is the devil's workshop which contains gossip, evil speakings, malice, hatred and so forth. No Christian should ever be found in this classification.

Do we use our valuable time for God? We should be hungrying for sweet fellowship from one meeting to the next, that we would want to assemble together to read and study God's Word. When we go to meeting, do we sit and play or do we eagerly listen to God speaking through the minister? Can we eagerly say after we have heard the Blessed Word that we have applied it to our every heart and plan to live it and VALUE it in our walk here on earth?

More and more people are being deceived every day. Oh, how valuable our time should be. We should always be ready and willing to listen, talk to and help the sinner to see his need for Christ.

This short life will soon be past;  
Only what's done for Christ will last.

Value... cost, importance and worth! We cannot stress it enough. Everytime we decide to do something; we should ask ourselves a question, "Which is more valuable and pleasing to God?" Let us value our time using it wisely for Christ and the Church.

My prayer is that we might be a peculiar people claiming a value of true worth to a sinful nation.

### A Peculiar People

When you go into a city,  
Folks may seem to stare at you;  
Wear a smile and show you're happy,  
Jesus' love will shine right through!

For a Christian ought to always  
Be rejoicing in his Lord,  
Overflowing with His graces,  
Living letter of His Word!

Though your clothes may look peculiar,  
Face the world with joyful song;  
For you are a royal priesthood  
When you to the Lord belong!

You're a chosen generation,  
Walking in the narrow way,  
Never be ashamed to witness;  
Jesus is your strength and stay!

He has called you out of darkness  
    Into His own glorious light;  
Show His praises, keep on shining  
    In a world as dark as night!

- Pauline Ressler  
In Christian Love,  
Sister Shirley Frick  
Bradford, Ohio

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

The New Testament

J. H. Moore

The New Testament Canon, as we now have it, has practically existed since the close of the apostolic age. At different times the genuineness of some of the books was questioned, but before the Council of Nice, A.D. 325, the list had been quite generally agreed upon, though the council took up the books, one by one, and confirmed the existing canon.

The New Testament is composed of twenty-seven books, the production of at least eight authors, and is intended solely for the new dispensation. In the Gospels we have a history of Christ, a record of his teachings and an account of the establishing of his church. The Acts follow with an account of what was done by some of the apostles and others, under the guidance of the Holy Ghost. Here we find a number of conversions, in which the process of conversion is clearly set forth. The epistles were addressed to saints, and have much to say as to how the converted should live. The canon closes with the Book of Revelation, dealing largely with the future, and pointing out clearly the destiny of the righteous, as well as that of the disobedient.

While the Old Testament belongs to the old dispensation, and was intended for the people of that dispensation, the New Testament pertains to the new dispensation, and is fully adopted to the needs and purposes of the present age. Here we find the will of God, as intended for every age and nation. It was prepared by holy men, who wrote as they were moved by the Holy Spirit, and therefore the book properly becomes the rule of faith and practice for all the faithful who accept Christ as their Teacher and Savior. It now becomes our duty to examine this Book and see what it demands of all the faithful followers of Christ.

**ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JULY 1986**

July 6 - Perfection through Suffering - Hebrews 2:9-18.

1. Why was it important for Christ to suffer?
2. Can we as Christians go through life without suffering?

July 13 - Christ the High Priest - Hebrews 3:1-11.

1. What were the duties of the High Priest?
2. How does Christ, our High Priest, differ from the high priest of the Old Testament?

July 20 - Partakers of Christ - Hebrews 3:12-19.

1. How or in what way do we become partakers with Christ?
2. What was the result when Israel fell away?

July 27 - Rest for the People of God - Hebrews 4:1-11.

1. Why were the ones to whom the Word was first preached, refused entrance?
2. How do we enter into the rest, and is there a danger of being turned away?

**YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS  
FOR JULY 1986**

July 6 - Christ's Prayer - John 17:1-26.

1. For whom did Christ Pray?
2. Did His prayer include the Church today?

July 13 - Good Names - Proverbs 22:1; Eccl. 7:1; Acts 6:2-4; III John 1:14.

1. Why is a name important?
2. In what way do we live our lives that our names will be good?

July 20 - Believers Walk - Rom. 6:4; I John 2:6; Gal. 5:16; Eph. 5:2; I John 1:7; Eph. 4:1-3.

1. Will there be a change in the way we walk after we become Christians?
2. Do all people walk in the right way? Read Phil. 3:16-18; Eph. 2:1-2.

July 27 - Liberty - Isaiah 61:1-3; John 8:31-36; Romans 8:16-21; Galatians 5:13; I Peter 2:13-16.

1. Man love liberty, but how do we become free?
2. Can our liberty be the means of causing others to stumble?

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

JULY 1, 1986

NO. 13

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## SPRING OF WATER

I've a spring of water flowing -  
And it comes from deep within -  
And its source is from my Saviour  
For He washes away sin.

O, this spring is so refreshing -  
Helps me start on each new day  
As I open up my Bible  
And read what it has to say.

I find the words will revive me -  
They will give new energy  
To climb the "Highest Mountain"  
Or cross the "Deepest Valley."

Won't you come and go along now?  
Use this Bible for your map  
And when you come to crevices  
Christ will help you "Bridge the Gap."

He'll take the hand of everyone  
Who would like to take this trip -  
And this "Spring of Water Flowing"  
Will refresh all with each sip.

Sister Irene Stout  
R. 1 Box 160, Wabash, IN 46992

## THE BLESSINGS OF GOD

The many blessings, we receive from God are so numerous and common that we too often take them for granted. If we begin to think seriously of all we have received from God we may be overwhelmed. If we make no accounting of them we become unthankful and self-centered.

The blessings we receive may be in all areas of our lives. We are liable to take credit for our good times but we may blame God for our bad times. If we realized what we have received from God we would be more thankful and less prone to praise ourselves.

Our blessings from God may be material prosperity. We may enjoy some of the riches of this world. But we should not expect prosperity as a reward for righteousness. God has His own reasons for allowing us various material blessings.

Material blessings, especially when in great abundance, may tend to be more of a test than a blessing. The accumulation of worldly goods may hamper our thankfulness as we praise ourselves instead of God for them. They may also lead us toward a life style that is not consistent with our Christian profession. We may become more interested in worldly accumulations than in furthering our Spiritual lives. We need to exercise great care in our pursuit and use of material blessings. A lack of material or financial means may seem a hardship but it may prove a blessing. God can use our hardships to bless us as He provides where we are unable. Blessings may be in a form that we hardly recognize them, but they are blessings nevertheless.

The blessings we receive may be physical. These have to do with our health and safety. Our bodies have been wonderfully created

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

JULY 1, 1986

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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by our Heavenly Father. They also need His protection and care. His Word gives us directions for the development of proper habits and the avoidance of sinful habits that would weaken the body. His teachings of self-discipline are given so our bodies may be useful to Him.

Despite our best care of our bodies we still can develop diseases and afflictions. These come upon us neither by desire nor in judgment. Then we can better appreciate the blessings of health. We can also appreciate the blessings of His care for us in the midst of our afflictions. Our weaknesses, like Paul's, allows God to use His strength in our behalf. God may use various ways to restore our health. He may use rest and relaxation as the means of restoration. He may also use the knowledge and abilities of doctors and other health care professionals. He may also use the anointing service and His own power to accomplish the healing. Whatever means He uses, it is a blessing to the healed.

God's physical blessings are evident in the safety He gives as we travel. There are many dangers, both seen and unseen. The highways, rivers, oceans and airways all have their dangers. Without a Heavenly Father to protect us we would far more often be found in danger's place. Safety is a blessing from God.

The material and physical blessings we receive are enjoyable but even more beneficial are the Spiritual blessings, we receive. These blessings draw us toward eternity. The material and physical blessings may help us be able to enjoy the Spiritual but they are limited to earthly things. The Spiritual blessings are internal and designed to further our Spiritual growth and maturity.

The Spiritual blessings we receive may vary among us as our Spiritual maturity varies. Also our various Spiritual blessings may vary according to the differences in our personalities and habits. God has provided them for us collectively and individually. These Spiritual blessings include our local worship services. The fellowship of the saints, the sharing in singing, the edification of Bible Study are among some of the blessings awaiting us at our home congregations. District Meetings, Lovefeasts, Harvest Meetings and General Conference are other opportunities for enjoying God's blessings. But Spiritual blessings are not limited to large gatherings, they are available to the individual Christian. Through private Bible study, prayer, and Christian service, there will come blessings to a Christian.

The blessings bestowed upon us by God are precious because they come from Him. We too often take these blessings for granted. We are very prone to use our prayers to ask God to bless us in a particular way but we do not use our prayers to praise Him for blessings received. Let us remember that God cares for each one of us and He so freely bestows His blessings upon us.

## THE JUNIPER TREE

I Kings 19

"But he himself went a day's journey into the wilderness, and came and sat down under a juniper tree: and he requested for himself that he might die; and said, It is enough; now, O Lord, take away my life; for I am not better than my fathers."

Elijah had just come through a turbulent time in his life. He was God's servant, and had experienced God's blessings and care, but now he was discouraged. He felt like he couldn't take anymore. Jezebel was after him, and he knew she would carry out her threat to kill him if at all possible. Elijah did not want to die at her hand, and he didn't want to keep running either. He had fled to Beersheba, then went another day's journey into the wilderness. It had been a long and hectic time since Elijah challenged the prophets of Baal and later slew them. Now he was very weary.

A juniper tree is a desert shrub, good for shade and protection from the weather. Here Elijah laid down, hoping to die. In his despair, he desired that God would take him because, in our words, he'd had enough. Elijah made his request, then went to sleep, no doubt in sheer exhaustion. His experiences of the last few weeks, and also of the last few years (read I Kings 17 and 18) had been both physically and emotionally draining, and he was now at the end of his strength.

Elijah was a special person, but he was still human, and, like us, was subject to discouragement. He needed spiritual renewal right then. Elijah was touched by an angel, and we too sometimes need an angel's touch. We need a special message from God, a message from His heart to ours. We need help because, as with Elijah, the journey is too great for us. We can't make it unless God comes to us and strengthens us.

Elijah was told to rise and eat. Food already prepared was on the coals nearby. A container of water was by his head, easily within reach. It is likely that he was too weak to leave his refuge, the juniper tree. After eating, he laid down, still in need of rest, and the angel touched him again. For the second time, Elijah ate and drank, and was strengthened. He then went in the strength of that meat forty days and forty nights. God cared for Elijah when he in no way could care for himself. His care can be seen in detail —note the fire, and the home-like touch it gave. The angel could have given Elijah a cold lunch, but the hot meal met his need much better.

Elijah ate natural food, but the strength he received was supernatural. I believe he received spiritual strength and encouragement because of God's provision. When Elijah could go no further,

God had mercy on him. He came to Elijah right where he was, and lifted him up out of despair. As we think over Elijah's experiences with God, all the miracles, and so forth, we may wonder why Elijah got so discouraged. It was because he was human just as we are. God cares when we too are overwhelmed by the trials of life and comes to help us — right where we are.

The juniper tree was a place of despair, but it became the place of renewal and encouragement. It was the place where Elijah's hope was restored, where he received assurance that God hadn't forgotten him. Elijah's work was not done yet, his time to die had not come, and God strengthened him for the days ahead. This experience was followed by further assurances at Mt. Horeb. There Elijah reaffirmed his faithfulness to God and expressed his loneliness. God responded with a demonstration of His power and the assurance that Elijah wasn't alone in his faithfulness, that there were yet seven thousand people who did not worship idols.

Elijah still had a job to do, and was no doubt encouraged to know God could still use him. He was to anoint Elisha, his successor, and he would no longer be alone. Sometimes we feel very much alone as he did, but we're not, for God is watching over us. We may think in our loneliness that we've outlived our usefulness to God, but we haven't. Our work isn't done until God says it's enough.

Have you had a juniper tree experience where despair has come and life is more than you can bear? God may not send an angel to you, but He will touch you in some way so you know He is there. Elijah was blessed in a personal way and you will be too. God knows what to do for you, to lift you up and meet the deepest need of your heart.

"Fear thou not; for I am with thee: be not dismayed; for I am thy God: I will strengthen thee; yea, I will help thee; yea, I will uphold thee with the hand of my righteousness." Isa. 41:10. Fear, discouragement, despair — all are familiar to us. Yet God assures us of His care and presence. Whatever goes wrong, He'll be right there. Elijah was lifted up and went on to finish his work, and that's what God will do for us. Let your 'juniper tree' be the beginning, not the end, for there are good things yet to come.

Sister Eileen Broadwater



Groanings unutterable lead to joys unspeakable.

## CONFERENCE IMPRESSIONS

People old,  
    People new,  
Familiar faces,  
    Families true.  
Friends from places far and wide,  
Friendships fresh and friendships tried.  
Praising,  
    Praying,  
    Bible classes;  
Generous meals fed to masses...  
This is conference to me.  
Holy manna  
    from above,  
Admonitions  
    said with love.  
Fellowship...  
    OH, how sweet!  
Memories past  
    of those who sleep.  
Another memory, another year,  
    Another smile, another tear.  
May our meeting  
    this year be,  
    blessed of God  
for all to see.  
    May our church  
        forever prosper  
    In the world --  
        to save the lost there.  
May we here  
    more strength receive,  
Leading others to believe.  
Sure of God --  
    our Lord and King;  
    May we, to Him,  
        Forever cling.

Sister Miriam Litfin  
Newberg, Oregon

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The kind of person God wants me to be... CONTENT

Are you content? Do you see God's provision in all aspects of your life as sufficient? We are living in the age of discontentment and yet God's Word is explicit in instructing us in this area of our lives.

We are prone to complain and the reason (many times) is to try to justify our lives which are being lived out of the control of the Holy Spirit. Eve was dissatisfied with what she had and she reached out for the forbidden. This set a trend for the human race which is perpetuated today. Man is a chronic complainer.

But God hates complaining. Even after He so profoundly delivered His people out of the bondage of Egypt and promised to meet all of their needs in the wilderness, these people complained constantly about the inconveniences in their lives. You know, God is leading us from similar slavery in the world of sin and we seem to pull back and complain all the way just as the Israelites did. We condemn them vehemently and forget to check out our own personal characters. Remember, trials and testing are built into our lives and IF WE CANNOT BE CONTENT THEN MISFORTUNES COME, WE HAD BETTER TAKE ANOTHER LOOK AT THE "MANUAL FOR LIFE."

Because of discontentment in parents, children are emulating this action at an early age. We coddle them in the face of minor discomforts. We expect God to fix all our broken toys before we can be content with life! How easily we complain about the weather, the car, the job, a fellow Christian or the church. If you look into God's Word, you find these words, "And when the Lord heard it, his anger was kindled, and the fire of the Lord burned among them." God hates complaining!

Contentment will only be a part of our lives as we have a proper recognition of God as our Creator and of ourselves as the creature (or created). These two facts can never blend together so that we begin to feel a self-sufficiency. God made you and because you recognize His sovereign hand shaped this lump of clay, you will not complain. He writes the narrative of our lives and He will continue to change the plot as is within His perfect will. If you have ever watched a skilled potter working with clay you will note that the clay never makes the rules. If it tries to "do its own thing," it ends up a destroyed lump on the floor. Then, the "creator" must remold it and remake it into something beautiful once again. The remaking is always more difficult than the smooth workmanship on the original model.

There probably is not one reader who has been beaten and left

for dead and who has gotten up, shaken off the dust and went back to town to preach the gospel. You have not been unjustly thrown into prison (and had your heart and lips filled with hymns) with soldiers on each side of you while your feet were fastened securely in stocks. When Paul wrote, "I have learned, in whatsoever state I am, therewith to be content," he wasn't quoting from a book of poetry. He was living it! (Phil. 4:11) When we read his credentials we begin to wonder who we can express discontent when our pretty inconveniences occur.

Contentment is not a "smiley-face" nor is it a "have a nice day" philosophy. It is rather, a rugged confidence in the face of obstacles. It dares to believe that God is in total control of our lives. It is an understanding that "God will never fail you nor forsake you."

Material things can blind our eyes to eternity. For some people, money seems to carry the promise of immortality. In this age of affluence we must continue to remind ourselves that the world doesn't owe us anything... and neither does God. Remember, the grass may sometimes look a lot greener on the other side of the fence, but it still has to be mowed.

The Scriptures speak routinely about contentment in the context of material things. It also eludes to contentment with life in general. Thus, if we were to define contentment in the context of its total implication, we would say that it is a state of mind that comes from knowing that God has provided all that I need, material and spiritual, to live life successfully.

Contentment allows us to enjoy our possessions without them possessing us. It allows us to use money and enjoy people rather than use people and enjoy money. It allows us to fulfill the commandment, "Thou shalt not covet." It even allows us to be alone and enjoy ourselves.

Are you dissatisfied, agitated, cynical and lacking in optimism? Are you obsessed with your personal "rights?" If any of these fit, you are a part of this angry generation. And if these mentalities are creeping into the church, we must guard ourselves militarily against them. We must repeat with David, "The Lord is my shepherd, I shall not want."

May Louise Riley Smith summed up our goal when she wrote,

"Then be content, poor heart!  
God's plans, like lilies pure and white, unfold:  
We must not tear the close-shut leaves apart  
Time will reveal the calyxes of gold!"

Brother Len Wertz

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

July 1, 1926

EDUCATIONAL

B. E. Kesler

We sometimes hear members of the church who are interested in the schools speak slightlying of the older brethren because of the stand they took when there was a question of having or of not having schools brought into the church. It has seemed to me that a false impression is at times given of the attitude of these brethren.

It was my good fortune to be intimately acquainted with a number of these men, and I must say that they were conscientious men who were doing their best for the cause which was dear to them, and which they felt meant much to the world.

The idea is often given that these brethren were opposed to learning; which is far from being true. Some of them were hard students, and learned all they could so that their sermons might be more helpful. They were not opposed to a man developing his mind.

What they were afraid of was that through the schools the world would be brought into the church and we should become that which the New Testament says we are not to become, namely, of the world. About fifty years ago schools began to be started in the church, and professedly for the church, and we see the result. Those who think the church is going right give the credit to the schools, and those who think the church is going wrong, give the blame to the schools; and it would be difficult to change either side.

We believe in education, but we do not believe it necessary to become worldly in order to get all the education we need, all and more than we use for the glory of God and the good of mankind. We do not believe in the kind of education that teaches as truth that which is contrary to the Word of God. And yet we have brethren who teach in the schools of the church those things which are opposed to the Bible, and still they expect the church to put up the money for their support.

The Bible teaches that God created man; our teachers, who are called "professors", "doctors", and so forth, instead of "brethren", teach that man did not come from a creative act of God, but was developed by evolution from lower animal forms, which in turn were developed from inorganic matter, by what they call the processes of nature.

That is what makes us feel that the schools should not be tolerated in the church or sponsored by the church. We believe that to believe and to obey the Bible is to walk with God, and that to

disbelieve and disobey it is to walk away from God. And we do not want to walk that way, nor do we want our children or grandchildren to walk that way. We are called "old fogies", "mossbacks" and other names just as polite and Christian. But such courtesies do not change our belief in the least. God helping us, we shall stand for his Word so long as he gives us life on earth, for believing as we do, there is no other way in which we can receive the promise of another and better life beyond this world.

If our schools — we must call them ours because the church has taken them — would strive to serve God and the church according to His Word, we should be in favor of them. Why should we endeavor to get our children to believe that the New Testament is the way or reveals the way of salvation, and then send them to be taught that it is not, that John did not know what he was writing about when he said that Jesus made everything that was made? And have that teaching done by a man who professes to be of the same faith that we are?

We shall be glad when we can feel that the church has reached the lowest position to which she will go, and that she must turn and go back, regain some of the truth, some of the faith in God which she has been losing for a number of years. But she cannot do that if her teachers are to sit at the feet of unbelievers and be led away from the truth by them. There cannot be such affiliation with that kind of men as we have had in recent years, and which has caused at least one of our schools to be classed among the unsafe kind by some outside of our own denomination.

A Christian ought to be in better business than making infidels. Unless our education is used for God it will do more harm than good. It is not an end; it cannot save. It gives power, but the power seems to draw the possessor more away from God than toward him. Man cannot find out God. If we are ever to know him it must be through his revelation of himself to us. This he has done and we received him, became his humble followers. Shall we now turn away from him and walk in the darkness of human knowledge? God forbid that we should forsake His Word.

## GODS OF OUR CHOOSING

Daniel 5:4 "They drank wine, and praised the gods of gold, and of silver, of brass, of iron, of wood, and of stone."

The Old Testament verse we would like to use for a basis of our thoughts is taken from a familiar account. Belshazzar the king had a great feast. The wine flowed freely. After drinking much wine the king ordered that the golden vessels that were out of the house of God be brought out for use in this ungodly feast. In the midst of

the feasting a hand appeared and wrote on the wall. Daniel was called in to interpret the meaning of the handwriting. At the end of the chapter Belshazzar loses his life.

Previous to this account we have the account of the three Hebrew children thrown into the fiery furnace and the account of Daniel in the lions' den. We see danger in making these accounts into only allegories or children's stories rather than actual divine working of miracles. While God did not choose to deliver every Saint from the jaws of death, we believe it is important that we realize he has the power to do so.

Now we come to our opening verse. We see that they "drank wine." By allowing themselves to become drunk they became controlled by the spirit of this world rather than the leading of the Holy Spirit. We believe it is possible for Christians to become "drunk" with the things of this world. This gives us desires for things that do not bring glory to God.

After they became drunk they praised the gods of: (1) gold. We see this as symbolic of desire for many worldly possessions. Do we think we have to have every new gadget that is mass produced? Do we envy those in the world who have new cars and homes filled with new furniture and many modern conveniences while we may be forced to live a more simple life? If we can afford all these things do we put God's work first?

(2) silver: This is related to the god of gold. We see this god as the desire to accumulate great amounts of money. We believe many homes are broken up because of this god. While it is necessary to earn a living and we do not believe it is wrong to have a savings account we dare not let this come before a wife and children. The worship of money can cause individuals to not take proper care of their body by relaxing and taking time out for some type of recreation. There are some types of recreation that can also be a means of saving money such as working in a garden if you have an office job or another job that is not physically demanding. This is alright as long as it is truly relaxation and not merely another way of worshipping the god of silver.

(3) brass: This is a substitute for gold. We see this god as a desire to appear rich by wearing fake jewelry and expensive clothes while neglecting real needs and/or giving to the work of the Lord. When a professing Christian bows to this god he is not only disobeying New Testament instructions but is also guilty of being a hypocrite, (trying to appear to be something that he is not.) This is one area that the vast majority of christendom has fallen victim to, being drunk with the spirit of this world.

(4) iron: This is a sign of strength. This god causes us to depend on our own human wisdom and physical abilities rather than

leaning on God's strength. Although it is not really a system of wisdom, evolution has been accepted by many because men with supposedly greater intellect have voiced support for this myth. Do we look to guns and physical weapons for our defense while Jesus Christ taught that we should be nonresistant? Are we ashamed to go to a brother or sister or the Church and seek help if we find ourselves in financial or physical need? In II Corinthians 12:10 Paul says, "Therefore I take pleasure in infirmities, in reproaches, in necessities, in persecutions, in distress for Christ's sake: for when I am weak, then am I strong." This is far different from the popular "health and wealth gospel" being propagated today. Have we fallen victim to this false god?

(5) wood: This is usually used, at least to some degree, for a building. Have some made a god out of erecting large edifices to worship in but not allowing the Spirit of God to lead the thinking therein? While speaking about buildings, we are reminded about a recent article we read concerning the fact that Mormons do not put crosses on their temples. The writer thought this proved that the cross of Christ was not being honored. While we certainly do not wish to give support to Mormonism we feel they, rather than the writer, are correct. The spotless, shining crosses displayed on the churches are not the old rugged cross that Jesus died upon. Such a cross would not be displayed in many places. God desires to be worshipped by using the temple of our body and a meetinghouse is merely a convenience.

(6) stone: A stone is smaller than a rock. We see this as symbolic of building our theology on man's puny ideas rather than the Rock of our salvation, Jesus Christ. Many would try to separate the living Word (Jesus Christ) and the Written Word (the Holy Bible) but to do so is to leave us open to a "stone theology." Men try to make obedience to New Testament teachings "legalism." At the same time some of these practice true legalism by following Old Testament standards. The remaining dissenters argue for no (or at least very few) standards at all.

Follow the true Triune God of Holy Scripture. This will not make you popular. You may be left out of much "church feasting." But in the end you will be standing before God with a clean heart. If you have never given your life to Jesus Christ, please do not delay. Eternity awaits you.

James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

John Introducing Christ

J. H. Moore

The work of the New Dispensation was begun by John the Baptist, the forerunner of Christ. His preaching, as Mark puts it, was "the beginning of the Gospel of Jesus Christ, the Son of God" (Mark 1:1). It is further stated, as cited before, that "the law and the prophets were until John: since then the kingdom of God is preached" (Luke 16:16). We read: "There was a man sent from God, whose name was John" (John 1:6). So he was selected by God for a special purpose and, during his brief ministry, performed his mission, which was to prepare a people for Christ. He delivered the message received of God, and in this way prepared a people by making known to them the mission with which he had been entrusted. He magnified not himself, but the Christ, who was to follow.

He was entrusted with a baptism that was from heaven (Matthew 21:25), and to the thousands who received his teachings regarding Jesus, he administered the rite of baptism. In the midst of his remarkable career, and while baptizing in the river Jordan, Jesus, who was then about thirty years old, came forward and demanded baptism. At first John hesitated, feeling that he was hardly worthy to baptize One whom he regarded as his superior. But being fully convinced, by what was said on the occasion, that this was a part of his mission, he led Jesus into the sacred stream and baptized him, employing the form of baptism that he had received from heaven, and the form observed in the baptism of the thousands who had so willingly accepted his teachings. At Christ's baptism, God proclaimed him as his beloved Son, thus settling the question with John, and others having spiritual insight, that he was indeed the long-promised Messiah, - the One of whom Moses and the prophets had written.

## MARRIAGE

MOYER - BURKHOLDER

Bro. Llewellyn J. Moyer, son of Mr. and Mrs. Charles Moyer, Bernville, Pennsylvania and Sis. Anita J. Burkholder, daughter of Bro. and Sis. Donald Burkholder, Bernville, Pennsylvania, were united in marriage May 24, 1986. The wedding service was held at the Dunkard Brethren Church at Frystown, Pennsylvania. The ceremony was performed by Eldor Allen B. Eberly.

The couple will be residing at Box 168, Rehrersburg, Pennsylvania 19550.

## OBITUARIES

### ANNA B. JOHNS

Sis. Anna B. Johns, age 76, of East Lincoln Avenue, Lititz, Pennsylvania passed away at home unexpectedly, March 7, 1986. She had been under a physician's care.

She was born November 16, 1909, the daughter of the late Christian and Anna (Bess) Johns. She joined the Church of the Brethren, November 1921. She was a faithful member of the Lititz Dunkard Brethren Church since it was organized in 1929.

Surviving are two sisters, Sarah B. Buffenmyer, Ephrata, Pennsylvania and Susanna B. Johns, with whom she lived, three brothers, Christian B., Leola, Pennsylvania; Francis B., Leola, Pennsylvania and Walter B., Ephrata, Pennsylvania.

Funeral services were held at the Lititz Dunkard Brethren Church, March 10, 1986, by Elder Allen Eberly with Elder Laverne Keeney and Brother Jack Snyder assisting. Burial in Bareville Cemetery, Bareville, Pennsylvania.

The family wishes to express thanks and appreciation to all for the many prayers, cards, and visits extended to us during this time of bereavement.

The family of Anna B. Johns

### GALEN B. HARLACHER

Bro. Galen Benjamine Harlacher was born in Teaken, Idaho on April 16, 1906, the son of Pius E. and Mollie (Henry) Harlacher. He moved to Newberg, Oregon with his parents in 1932 and has been a resident of that area since that time.

He was married to Elsie Reed on September 4, 1938 and they lived a happy life on a small acreage northwest of Newberg. He earned a living as a landscape gardener until his retirement. Gardening was also his hobby at the home that he loved so much. Among his other hobbies was playing the zither harp and entertaining friends and family by playing records on his Edison phonograph.

He was a minister and elder in the Dunkard Brethren Church for many years. On July 5, 1936 Brother Harlacher was elected and installed into the ministry. On November 16, 1940, Galen and Elsie were advanced to the Eldership.

Altogether, the Newberg Church has had 106 Lovefeast services of which 103 of these services were held both Fall and Spring beginning in the fall of 1934. Of these 103 Lovefeast services, Brother Harlacher never missed one.

Brother Harlacher departed this life on May 30, 1986 at the King City Convalescent Center shortly after being transferred there from the Newberg Community Hospital. He is survived by his wife, Elsie, daughter Wanda Wayman of Newberg, sister Annie Harlacher of Grants Pass, Oregon and two grandchildren, Steven Roedel of Newberg and Lori Roedel of Aloha, Oregon.

## NEWS ITEMS

### GRANDVIEW, MISSOURI

The Lord willing, there will be a week of Revival Meetings at Grandview, Missouri, July 20 through July 27. Bro. H. Edward Johnson of Wauseon, Ohio will be our evangelist. Our Lovefeast and Communion will be held on July 26. All are welcome to attend and pray for these meetings.

Sister Mary Lou Kasza, Cor.

### PLEASANT HOME, CALIFORNIA

We look forward to Revival in our hearts and lives. Bro. Len Wertz is to be our evangelist for our meetings at 7:30 each evening, July 27 through August 3, 1986.

It would be a real blessing to our congregation if many of you could share these services with us.

Sister Edith Moss, Cor.

### THANKS

I wish to extend my heartfelt thanks to each of the Brethren and Sisters for remembering me during my two week stay in the hospital and since returning home with visits, prayers, cards, letters and flowers. May God bless you richly for all your kindnesses.

Sister Kathryn Hollandsworth

### ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

The announcement of our two weeks revivals, July 20 through August 3, is an invitation to all. Come and join us in the blessings of hearing God's Word. Our Harvest Meeting is the afternoon of July 20.

Sister Ruth Speicher, Cor.

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(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

JULY 15, 1986

NO. 14

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## LET ME LIVE

Let me live each day  
As though it were my last,  
For who, but God knows  
When my days will be past?  
I will look ahead  
And I will count the cost,  
Trust the Lord to lead  
So my soul won't be lost.

I've made Christ my choice  
He's showing me the way,  
I will read His Word  
So my feet do not stray.  
And I'll watch for Him  
To come down from the skies  
To take me along  
With all the Saints that rise.

- Sister Irene Stout  
R. 1 Box 160, Wabash, IN 46992

## THANKFUL AND THOUGHTFUL

There are various natural disasters that afflict the different areas of this country. There are areas where hurricanes are common. Other areas suffer from tornadoes. Severe blizzards, floods or heat waves happen. The Pacific Coast is occasionally jolted with earthquakes of varying strength.

When these disasters strike, there is no physical power that can prevent or divert them. Many tragedies have happened as the result of these natural disasters. Tornadoes have destroyed homes, businesses, towns and lives in very short order. Earthquakes, without warning, have destroyed lives and possessions. Other manifestations of nature's power have made themselves felt.

While these disasters tend to happen in a particular area, there are times when they are felt elsewhere. Tornadoes have been known near the Pacific Coast. Earthquakes have been felt in the Midwest and even in the East. Blizzards sometimes sweep out of the Northern Plains to the South and East. None are immune from the destructiveness of these disasters. If one particular area is not subject to one type of disaster it may be the center of another type of disaster. Disasters are common to all.

We have all had the experience of facing these disasters. Some have faced greater ones than others. Some have felt the full fury of disaster and have suffered the physical and mental consequences.

When we have faced these dangers and have been permitted to survive them, while others have lost much, we should be very thankful. God makes use of these disasters for His own purposes. We may not understand just what His motives may be.

He may use disasters to let men know that He is more powerful

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

JULY 15, 1986

Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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than all the plans, programs and productions of men. He may use them to awake some to their true Spiritual standing before Him. He shakes nature to shake them to consider their ways. He may use these times to confirm in the mind of Christians that He is still in control of the forces of this world. There are a lot of voices in the world today proclaiming the greatness and invulnerability of man. A few seconds of earthquake or tornado dispels that false opinion.

When we have survived one of these disasters, we should be very thankful. We should be thankful for the sparing of our lives and possessions. Even if we have sustained some loss we can always consider how much worse it could have been. We can behold how others have been afflicted far worse than we have been. Actually, we should be thankful to God without these events. We should be thankful every day for what we are, have and can be. Yet it seems that God must use these natural means to awaken the spirit of thankfulness within us.

While thankfulness should be the first emotion within us after surviving a disaster, the spirit of thoughtfulness should also enter in. We should consider that we have been spared for some reason. Disaster may destroy or seriously touch one person or family or area and leave others who were just as vulnerable, untouched. "Why?", is often the question. Some serious thought should be given to that question.

Certainly we have survived not because we are any better than any other. God sends rain and sun and disasters upon the just and the unjust. God is impartial. Unlike humans He is able to be fair with all, no matter their personalities, or their good and bad points.

When we have survived the disaster, are we ever wise enough to consider what the consequences would have been if we had not survived? Where would we have found ourselves? How well were we prepared for eternity? We think that it is always someone else who is suddenly, unexpectedly ushered into eternity. But what if that someone were us? These may be hard and even unpleasant questions for us to consider. Yet, we must. Our eternal destiny depends upon the answers we give to these questions.

If the answers we receive to these questions are not as pleasant as we would wish, then some further thought should be given to the subject of preparing for eternity. We need to know that God has not given us His plan of salvation in vain. He has given it that we might be prepared even in the midst of disaster. If we do not have the opportunity to be thankful and thoughtful after a disaster, would we be in that state we would wish to be?

Many depart this life without being taken by a disaster. They simply sleep away and do not arise in the morning. Others are the victims of accidents. While others taste death due to disease. Each

of these though they depart by natural means, must also face the question of their eternal condition. Where will their eternal habitation be? We may consider ourselves to be safe from natural disasters, which could well be a false security, but we must all face death. By whatever means we meet death, meet it we must. Then comes the eternity spent in the joys of Heaven or in the wretched fires of Hell.

We may have to face the various natural disasters that our areas are subject to. However destructive earthquakes, hurricanes, tornadoes, floods, blizzards or any other disasters may be, the worse disaster of all is for a soul to be lost in Hell.

Be thankful and thoughtful that whatever disaster you may have to face that you do not have to meet the worse one of all.

### I'M YOURS, LORD

I'm yours, Lord.  
Everything I've got,  
Everything I am,  
Everything I'm not,  
I'm yours, Lord.

These words are part of a chorus which is new to me, but it has an old message. If you think about it a moment, you will see that this message is the same as:

Just as I am without one plea...  
O Lamb of God, I come.

Whatever we have, whatever we are, whatever we're not — that's the way we come to Jesus. Good or bad, rich or poor, He wants our hearts, and no matter how we say it, that's the only thing we have to give to Him.

"But God commendeth his love toward us, in that, while we were yet sinners, Christ died for us." Rom. 5:8. When we come to Jesus, He takes us as we are — sinners — and then makes us what He wants us to be. We can't make ourselves better; we can't qualify for salvation by self-improvement. God grants us salvation because He wants to, not because we've earned it in any way. It is a gift of love from Him. "For by grace are ye saved through faith; and that not of yourselves: it is the gift of God." Eph. 2:9.

"For God so loved the world, that He gave His only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in Him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John 3:16. When we believe as God wants us to, we will be set free from sin. Things in our lives will begin to change, and Christ's power will be evident in us. As our faith increases, our desires to please Him will also increase. We cannot belong to Jesus and stay the same.

"I beseech you therefore, brethren, by the mercies of God, that ye present your bodies a living sacrifice, holy, acceptable unto God, which is your reasonable service." Rom. 12:1. God desires that we would give ourselves totally to Him. This means a total commitment, a total giving of self. It means placing all we are or ever hope to be in His hands. It means God's will comes before ours, even when it hurts. And yes, it will hurt at times simply because we're human.

Jesus said, "I am the vine, ye are the branches. He that abideth in me, and I in him, the same bringeth forth much fruit: for without me ye can do nothing." John 15:5. Unless we abide in Christ, there has been no real commitment. When we abide in Him, it means we do everything together. Our lives are no longer our own. It means we get our strength from Him. He nourishes and supports us. We bear the fruit, but Jesus makes it possible. We can't leave Him, the Vine, and expect to amount to anything.

"I am crucified with Christ: nevertheless I live; yet not I, but Christ liveth in me: and the life which I now live in the flesh I live by the faith of the son of God, who loved me, and gave himself for me." Gal. 2:20. Crucifying the flesh — giving up our own desires — hurts, but letting Jesus have His way in our hearts brings us peace. Our new life in Christ brings us joy, and the blessings far outweigh anything we give up. We don't always understand the ways of the Lord, but knowing He loves us and has our best interests at heart is sufficient reason to place our lives in His hands.

"I pray God your whole spirit and soul and body be preserved blameless unto the coming of our Lord Jesus Christ." I Thess. 5:23b. Our entire being is to be involved in Christian living, to the end that we'll be ready to meet Jesus when He comes again. Our life on earth is not the end; it is the preparation time for Eternity. The things which we value so highly in this life and find so hard to give up don't mean much when compared to Eternity.

The one really important thing for now and Eternity is what to do with Jesus. We have to decide whether to accept or reject Him, if we will serve Him wholly or just be half-hearted about it. We know no man can serve two masters (Luke 16:13) but if we try to follow Jesus half-heartedly, we're trying to do just that. We will not succeed in anything except in making ourselves miserable. We must decide what we're going to do with Jesus; we can't remain on neutral ground.

"And that he died for all, that they which live should not henceforth live unto themselves, but unto him which died for them, and rose again." II Cor. 5:15. Jesus gave all He had to give for us, and we should do the same for Him. Giving all to Him is commitment to Christ and all He stands for. Commitment means, very simply, that

we've pledged and entrusted ourselves to Him. It is what we must do to please Him. It is actually living out that little chorus:

I'm yours, Lord.  
Everything I've got,  
Everything I am,  
Everything I'm not.

Can you honestly say, "I'm yours, Lord"?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The kind of person God wants me to be.... REVERENT

Irreverence is the hallmark of this age... and it has no place in the life of the committed Christian. Reverence is an attitude of deep respect and love toward those in authority. The word used in the scripture is "fear." We are commanded to fear God, our rulers, employers, parents and those in spiritual authority. Fear is a basic response to God and His authority. This concept is profound in the Old Testament but is consistently taught in the New Testament, as well. We fear God because He is totally unlike us... holy and eternal.

Notice love is part of our definition of being reverent. Reverence for a person doesn't mean we withdraw from him, but it does mean that we maintain a distance in our attitude. As we approach God we understand that He is much more than our "Good Buddy"... He is infinitely holy.

In our American society it is unpopular to have distinctions of any kind. We fear them! We seek to erase sexual distinctions. We feel free in criticizing our President, disobeying our employers, ridiculing our parents and disregarding our spiritual leaders. Reverence is a rare commodity today.

God demands reverence of us. He told Moses to take his shoes off because he was on holy ground. God is close to us in love but separate in His purity. We must always understand this. Folksy religion is in vogue today. This was not true of the Hebrew mentality. They would rejoice in their God with dancing, but would also fall on their faces in absolute awe in His presence. If familiarity breeds contempt, then we today are in danger of it in our relationship with God. It is unpopular to be in awe. How we need to reinstate that kind of relationship.

Both Jude and Peter taught that those who despise authority would be judged. The minor prophets related a lack of reverence among God's people during their time. Their preception of God was wrong. God is worthy of our respect and reverence. Malachi rebuked the children of Israel for their cheap religion and phony faith.

The Pharisees showed an independence in worshiping God by their religious piety... yet Jesus saw through this and taught them about the wicked tenants in His parable.

When the thief on the cross scoffed at Jesus, the other thief rebuked him saying, "Do you not fear God?" That question should be on our lips and in our heart. When we hear Christians using slang that takes the Lord's name in vain, we, too, should say, "Don't you fear God?" When we see children and even young people disobeying their parents, wives criticizing their husbands, employees scoffing at their bosses, citizens mocking the president, we should say, "Don't you fear God?"

The Bible says to pay honor to whom honor is due. One way we give this honor is with appropriate speech. Our speech reveals our attitude about people and God. Jokes about God, slang words referring to God and simplistic expressions as "The Man Upstairs" have no place in the vocabulary of the conservative Christian who is showing a fear for the Lord.

Actions also show our respect or the lack of it. I am concerned that we have lost so much of it today that it may take many years to regain what we've lost. Our decline in Christian values has followed the world's social value decline. We have taken the holy and made it profane. We have taken the sacred and made it commonplace. Pray that God will restore to us the vision of His holiness and instill within us a proper response. Deut. 4:24 says, "For the Lord thy God is a consuming fire." Can we be casual about that statement.

As our vision of God grows smaller, we divest Him of His unapproachable majesty. The fear of God is more than a natural apprehension of danger. It is an acute feeling of personal insufficiency in His presence.

Reverencing God will have a profound effect on our worship as well as our witness. It can bring us to the presence of the Lord in a new way. Will you be the kind of person God wants you to be... REVERENT?

Brother Len Wertz

## VICTORY OVER DEATH AND THE GRAVE

Our precious Saviour was victorious over death and the grave. "He was wounded for our transgressions, bruised for our iniquities and by His stripes we were healed." Those who nailed Him to the cross, because He had said that after His death He would rise again, wanted to make sure His body would stay in the tomb. The power of God was manifested. The soldiers, who set a watch, through the power of God became as dead men.

"Up from the grave He arose  
With a mighty triumph over His foes."

Do we appreciate the great sacrifices made by our Heavenly Father and Son as we should? Our Father was willing to give His only begotten son for our redemption. The Saviour was willing to leave the shining courts of Heaven and come to this sinful world for our redemption. The words of our precious Saviour to the Lord were, "Not my will but thine be done." He was always willing to be obedient to the Father until His death on the cross. After His severe suffering and death, He arose to Eternal Glory. He told those of his own, "I go to prepare a place for you that where I am there ye may be also."

He commanded them to preach the gospel to all nations and to teach them to observe all things He had commanded them and promised to be with them to the end. He lives forever with His saints to reign. We must become dead unto sin in this life to inherit eternal glory.

Dead in sin in this life is the way to eternal destruction. Today many are preparing for life in this world only and are laying nothing up for the great life beyond this vale of tears. The treasurers of this world, moth doth corrupt and thieves break through and steal. The things of this world are perishable and the day is coming when all of it and its contents will be destroyed as our God has declared. How do the conditions of things today compare with the days of Noah?

God is love. Christ said love one another as I have loved you, it is the fulfillment of the law. Those who have Christian love will not place unjust hardships upon others. We should always take the saving gospel as our guide. The placing of hardships upon others is the mark of darkness.

As we grow older in this life, it comes to our memory many times of some with whom we labored in this world who have done much for the good of others and faithfully labored for the upbuilding of God's kingdom here on earth. It was their desire that we remain faithful. It is our desire to meet with them in the Place, Christ is preparing for all who love His appearing. He is coming back to earth again to receive His faithful servants unto eternal glory.

Today there is much strife in the world and many have all their trust in the perishing things of this world. Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people. The faithful can look forward to the crown of life. The faithful servants of God in this life after death become equal with the angels. Blessed are the dead who die in the Lord from henceforth they shall rest from their labors and their works do follow them.

Will we stand the storms of life's pathway in this evil day? Let us not be among the foolish who have all their trust in the perishing things of this world and are not rich toward God. We have record in

God's Word of a rich man who lived only for himself and had no sympathy for the poor man at his gate. All his trust was in his earthly possessions and himself. Nothing was laid up by him for the great life beyond and at the end of his life on earth he opened his eyes in hell begging for a little relief. The poor man at his gate was received into glory. The spirit of selfishness does not exist in the true Christian's life. The saving Gospel tells us how to become rich toward God and lay up for ourselves treasures in Heaven.

Because of the uncertainty of life in this world we should be prepared for eternal glory, a prepared place for a prepared people. We should never oppose or condemn others for good works. Unrighteous judgment is an act of injustice or self-condemnation. All things work together for good to them that love God. We need all the fruits of the Spirit to be qualified for the great eternal victory at the end of the true Christian's life on earth. Death shall be swallowed up in victory and this immortal shall put on immortality and all the sufferings, pains and hardships of this life will be over for all who have lived Godly in Christ Jesus in this world and have accepted His plan of salvation. They will be victorious over death in this life and victorious throughout the ceaseless ages of eternity. Are we prepared for the victorious resurrection?

Brother J. F. Marks  
804 W. Sundial Loop  
Plant City, FL 33566

## THE CHURCH YOU WANT

If you want to have the kind of a church  
Like the kind of a church you like,  
You needn't slip your clothes in a grip  
And start on a long, long hike.  
You'll only find what you left behind,  
For there's nothing really new  
It's a knock at yourself when you knock the church;  
It's isn't the church — IT'S YOU.

When everything seems to be going wrong,  
And trouble seems everywhere brewing;  
When prayer meeting, young people's meet, and all,  
Seems simmering slowly — stewing,  
Just take a look at yourself and say,  
"What's the use of being blue?"  
Are you doing your "bit" to make things "hit"?  
It isn't the church — IT'S YOU.

It's really strange sometimes, don't you know,  
 That things go as well as they do,  
 When we think of the little — very small mite —  
 We add to the work of the few;  
 We sit, and stand around, and complain of what's done,  
 And do very little but fuss.  
 Are we bearing our share of the burdens to bear?  
 It isn't the church — IT'S US.

So if you want to have the kind of a church  
 Like the kind of a church you like.  
 Put off your guile and put on your best smile,  
 And hike, my brother, just hike,  
 To the work in hand that has to be done —  
 The work of saving a few.  
 It isn't the church that is wrong, my boy;  
 It isn't the church — IT'S YOU.

Anonymous.

I found this poem the other day and felt it was worth sharing. There seems to be a lot of unrest among God's people today. Maybe it's not what others are doing but we ourselves. Are we constantly trying to bring new ideas and fashionable styles into our beloved Church? Are we doing all we can to help with our share of the workload, or would we rather stay away from services and complain how others handle church matters?

The future of our Church should be a deep concern for each one. Let us "hold fast that which is good." I Thess. 5:21.

Humbly submitted,  
 Sister Karen Blocher  
 Bradford, OH

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

'CHRIST THE HEAD

J. H. Moore

Referring to the confession made by Peter, Jesus said: "Upon this rock I will build my church" (Matt. 16:18). To this church belong all true believers who love Jesus, confess his name and obey his commandments. He is the Head and the Lawgiver by divine appointment. To him all saints are directly related, and thereby become and constitute the body of Christ upon the earth. The word "church," primarily, means "the called out." Jesus, through his Word, through his faithful teachers, and by the help of the Holy Spirit, calls upon men and women everywhere to forsake

their sins, come out from the world and to lay hold on eternal life. Those who, in faith, heed the call, make up the membership of the New Testament church.

In Col. 1:18 we read: "And he is the head of the body, the church." Paul told the elders at Ephesus to feed the flock of God, which Jesus has purchased with his own blood (Acts 20:28). The church belongs to Jesus, was founded by him, and even purchased with his own blood. By his labors, John the Baptist prepared members for this body, and as they left all, and attached themselves to Christ, they became members of his body, — subjects of his kingdom on earth. This mystical body of Christ has never been formally organized. As disciples accepted Jesus in faith and obedience, they became a part of his called-out, — the church, —and at the head he stands as the Savior, the Purchaser, and the Law-giver. However, for convenience, local churches have been organized, and, by virtue of New Testament recognition, they became parts of the body of which Jesus is the Divinely-appointed Head. These local churches, or congregations, which their officers, are authorized to do all that the Gospel requires of churches, and may combine to labor together for more extended work in the interest of the kingdom.

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

July 15, 1926

### THE CULMINATION

B. E. Kesler

About ten years ago many earnest souls became alarmed at the enroachments of worldliness into the church and the gradual introduction of innovations foreign to our former church polity.

These earnest souls set about to work a reform in the church by counteracting the influences which to them seemed evil: and destructive of true vital piety and spirituality. These efforts were misunderstood by the leaders in the church and it was hard to arouse the great mass of the laity who still had the utmost confidence in the leaders, who somehow managed to keep up appearances while the real self was kept in the background, in the meantime scattering propaganda in the quiet way until sentiment was developed strong enough that they dared throw off the mask and the real self was manifest. In this way many unsuspecting simple minded folks were deceived and had their confidence betrayed.

Men who outwardly seemed sound in the faith suddenly turned right about and instead of joining hands and helping to remove the innovations that were disturbing the peace of the church and

tending to division, openly encouraged them, which widened the breach between the two parties which by this time had become quite distinct.

As a means to counteract the worldward drift of the church which by this time was viewed with alarm, the "Bible Monitor" was launched as a medium through which real conditions could be made known and the membership aroused to a knowledge of conditions as they now had come to be.

The "Monitor" likewise, was misunderstood and its timely warnings fell upon ears that were dull of hearing and even up to now many loyal members can not apparently realize conditions are as they are reported to be.

Those who supported the "Monitor" in its work of reform have been ostracized, set at naught, coerced, and intimidated until forbearance has in their estimation, ceased to be a virtue. And as conditions have steadily grown worse and the breach continued to widen because of the continued growth of worldliness and innovations in the church the "Monitor" people became discouraged and began to feel some definite action should be taken to relieve the suspense and grief of the loyal and faithful part of the church. Meetings were held, and overtures made to Conference, which proved unavailing, so that further efforts at reform in the church seemed futile and doomed to end in failure.

The climax was reached when, in the late Conference at Lincoln, Nebraska the paper on "granting and receiving certificates of membership" was passed, making impossible the enforcement of disciplinary measures and remedial agencies by which the church formerly sought to regulate the conduct and life of the membership and promote piety and spirituality in her communicants.

The situation now became such that the "Monitor family" as it had come to be known, felt they could no longer conscientiously or consistently fellowship many things tolerated and encouraged in the church by the leaders and those responsible for their introduction.

Accordingly at their late meeting at Greentown, Indiana, June 24 they voted unanimously "to declare ourselves independent, and to reorganize and to re-establish the true faith of the gospel amongst us" and to call ourselves "Dunkard Brethren", which means another religious body is to be added to the many now in existence.

It must be apparent that God is not pleased with the divided state of professed Christianity and none perhaps, would want to be styled the culprit responsible for it. It must be remembered however that God's minorities were never large and his people have always been preserved through remnants and will likely be to the end of the world.

Viewed in this light, while it may mean a different organization, it can not be wrong for the loyal and faithful to "come out and be separate" or to "withdraw from those who walk disorderly and not after the tradition delivered unto them" by their faithful predecessors. Indeed there is no other way by which it has been possible in the past to preserve the true faith on the earth. And it has already been said the Dunkard Brethren will soon find themselves divided and drifting worldward just as other people have done. Be it so, then may there be another faithful few among them who will dare to be true and "come out" if necessary that there may be at least a remnant of the faithful among whom He may find faith when he comes.

## EVOLUTION

Is there no living God?  
Then is there life in me?  
If God be not, then I am not;  
Nor could I ever be.

For life must needs proceed  
From some primeval cause;  
No self-creating thing is known  
In all vast nature's laws.

But "Science" falsely called,  
Dares to dictate to God;  
It contradicts His Holy Word,  
While atheists applaud.

It says man was a beast;  
And that he slowly rose  
By lazy stages, till at last  
He came as man to pose.

If men evolved from beasts,  
Will scientists explain  
How man has lived so long as man  
And still doth man remain?

When did the process cease?  
And why evolve no more?  
Surely a further change must come  
If change did come before.

Tis true a grub may grow  
And change its outer form;  
From chrysalis to butterfly  
No more to live as worm.

But man was not made so.  
Nor can he change his state;  
As man he was and man will be  
To times remotest date.

For God did man create  
By special word and deed;  
Let not earth's vain philosophy  
God's record supersede.

Let evolution go ---  
A HUMAN theory ---  
Hold fast God's faithful word and know  
By faith Life's Mystery.

Humbly submitted by  
Brother Lester M. Flora  
R. 2 Box 558  
Syracuse, IN 46567

## MARRIAGE

### RUTTER - BURTNER

Sister Yvonne Lynn Rutter, daughter of Mr. and Mrs. James Rutter and Brother Glen Burtner, son of Brother and Sister Barry Burtner were married on June 8, 1986 at 2 P.M. at the home of the Groom's parents.

Brother Paul Hartz brought a message from God's Word after which he united the couple in Holy Matrimony.

A group of about eighty-five were in attendance at the occasion.  
We wish God's blessing on this couple as they reside at Route 2, Box 204 D, Windsor, Pennsylvania 17366.

## OBITUARY

### HARRY BRADY

Bro. Harry J. Brady was born February 25, 1908 in Carroll County, Indiana. He died at his home in Goshen, Indiana of unknown cause. His body was found June 4, 1986.

He moved from Butlerville to Goshen in 1943. He was for many years night watchman at Goshen Churn and Ladder.

He was for several years a member of the Goshen Dunkard Brethren Church.

He is survived by two sisters, Sister Lester (Lillie) Flora, Syracuse, Indiana and Mrs. Faye Berry, Logansport, Indiana and one brother, Andrew, Logansport, Indiana.

Funeral services were held on June 6, 1986 at the Yoder-Culp Funeral Home by Bro. Terry Gunderman. Burial was in the Hess Cemetery.

## NEWS ITEMS

### PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

The Pleasant Ridge Congregation plans to have their Revival Meeting, August 17-31. Bro. Gordon Jamison is to be the speaker. The meeting will close with a Harvest service Sunday morning, August 31, basket dinner at noon, and the final service Sunday evening. There will be no afternoon service.

All are welcome to come and enjoy these services with us.

Sister Eileen Broadwater, Cor.

### SHREWSBURY, PENNSYLVANIA

The Shrewsbury Congregation, Lord willing, is looking forward to a revival meeting. Bro. Dennis St. John from the Pleasant Ridge, Ohio Congregation will be our evangelist. The meetings will be held August 3 to August 17, with services each night at 7:30. We invite you to come, pray and worship with us during these meetings.

We enjoyed another Lovefeast on May 25, 1986. It was a day of worship, fellowship, and working together to carry out God's ordinances. We were thankful for the visiting ministers who preached the Word. They were: Bro. Paul Hartz, Bro. Frank Shaffer, Bro. John Peffer, Bro. Emmert Shelly, and Bro. Virgil Leatherman who officiated at the evening service.

Sister Fern Ness, Cor.

### BROADWATER CHAPEL, MARYLAND

The Lord willing the Broadwater Chapel Congregation is looking forward to a weeks revival from July 27 to August 3. Bro. Harley Flory from Ohio will be our evangelist. Come and worship with us.

Sister Lavona Sines, Cor.

### McCLAVE, COLORADO

The McClave Congregation is looking forward to having Bro. Rudy Schaffer bring us a series of revival messages, beginning on August 10 and continuing through August 17, 1986. Communion Services will be August 16. We invite all to come and fellowship with us.

"Not forsaking the assembling of ourselves together...." Heb. 10:25.

Sister Rhonda Snyder, Cor.

## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR AUGUST 1986**

August 3 - The Word of God - Hebrews 4:12-16.

1. The Word will make us clean. Psalms 119:9; I Peter 1:22.
2. Written with a purpose. John 20:31.

August 10 - The Author of Eternal Salvation - Hebrews 5:1-14.

1. How do we obtain salvation? I Peter 1:18-20.
2. Is there danger in rejecting salvation? John 3:18.

August 17 - Falling Away - Hebrews 6:1-9.

1. What causes a falling away? Ephesians 4:14.
2. Is falling away serious? Luke 9:62.

August 24 - Heirs of Promise - Hebrews 6:10-20.

1. What is an Heir? Romans 8:17.
2. How do we become Children of God? John 1:12.

August 31 - The Priesthood changed - Hebrews 7:1-17.

1. How were the Priest's chosen under the law? Numbers 1:50.
2. What was the difference in the Priesthood of Christ? Hebrews 7:16.

## **YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR AUGUST 1986**

August 3 - Service - Matt. 21:28-32; I Cor. 15:58; James 2:14-26.

1. Our service to God. Deut. 10:12.
2. To our fellowman - Luke 10:30-37.

August 10 - Clean Living - Psalms 119:1-6; I John 2:14-17.

1. How can we become clean? Heb. 9:14; I John 1:7.
2. Where does the cleaning start inside or outside? Mark 7:14-23.

August 17 - Following the Crowd - Exodus 23:1-2; Deut. 12:28-32; II Cor. 17:15; Matt. 23:1-12.

1. Is there safety in large numbers? Exodus 23:2.
2. How should we walk before the world? Romans 12:2.

August 24 - Awake or Asleep - Mark 13:34-37; Mark 14:32-40; Eph. 5:14-17.

1. In Isaiah 56:10 His watchman were sleeping, loving to slumber.
2. We are to be awake. I Thess. 5:6.

August 31 - Straight Paths - Deut. 5:32-33; Jos. 1:8-9; Prov. 4:26-27; Heb. 12:13-14.

1. Are we to seek for new paths? Jer. 6:16.
2. How can we know we are on the right path? Psalms 23:5.

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

AUGUST 1, 1986

NO. 15

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## SWEET WILL OF GOD

My Stubborn will at last hath yielded;  
I would be Thine and Thine alone;  
But this the prayer my lips are bringing,  
"Lord, let in me Thy will be done."

I'm tired of sin, footsore and weary,  
The darksome path hath dreary grown,  
But now a light has ris'n to cheer me;  
I find in Thee my Star, my Sun.

Thy precious will, O conqu'ring Savior,  
Doth now embrace and compass me;  
All discords hushed, my peace a river,  
My soul a prisoned bird set free.

Shut in with Thee, O Lord, forever,  
My wayward feet no more to roam;  
What pow'r from Thee my soul can sever?  
The center of God's will my home.

- Mrs. C. H. Morris

## SEEING THE PROMISED LAND

The last scene of Moses' life seems tragic to us. He was permitted to gaze into the Promised Land, which had been his goal during all those years of strife and trouble along the journey through the wilderness. Now from the mountain east of Jordan, he could see that land. Surely, it was a beautiful and an emotional sight. He could enjoy the view but he could not enter the Land.

Moses had traveled far and labored long to lead the children of Israel from Egypt to their Promised homeland. They had been reluctant to move out of Egypt. They had rebelled not only against Moses but God as well. They had murmured and complained. They had been well cared for by God. They had been taught by Moses and Aaron. Very slowly they had been molded into a disciplined group of followers prepared to enter the Promised Land. They were ready to wrest it from the heathen inhabitants. They were awaiting the order to cross the Jordan. They were there because Moses had so faithfully led them throughout their long and troubled journey.

They were anxious to move in. They would soon be in their own land, but Moses would not go in with them. He could look but he could not enter. He could not enter because in a moment of frustration he had disobeyed God. God had used Moses earlier in the journey to supply water for the thirsting people by striking the rock. When a number of years later the children of Israel returned to Rephidim, they again thirsted. They chided Moses to bring forth water to them again. Moses felt his incompetency to do so but God told him to speak to the rock to receive water. When the people

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AUGUST 1, 1986

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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were gathered, Moses' frustration with the oft rebellious people came to the fore. Instead of speaking to the rock, he again smote it with his rod. The water came forth but God told Moses that for his disobedience he could not enter the Promised Land.

There are many today who have a vision of Heaven but they seemingly are unwilling to enter into the journey that would allow them to enter in. These see the good of Christ, the Church and a Christian life, yet they linger or excuse themselves. They would love to have a place in Heaven and to be among the Saints on earth, but they do not begin the trek. Some may even be Church members but they are not actively participating in the Christian walk of life.

They know it is good to be a Christian but can't make the break with certain habits or possessions of this world. Some may feel knowing these things and having regard for the Church will bring them into Heaven. Some may feel that though disobedient, they will be rescued by God. Moses allowed his frustration with the rebellious people to keep him from entering in. He was going to show them how he could bring water to them. God still gave the water but He wasn't sanctified by Moses' arrogant action.

Jesus, in speaking to Nicodemus, spoke of the difference between seeing and entering the Kingdom of God. "Except a man be born again, he can not see the kingdom of God." He was speaking to one who was a religious leader of Israel but who needed instruction in the true way. He certainly was interested in the things connected with a religious life, but he had not entered in. He had great difficulty in understanding what Jesus had said. His mind was on natural things.

Jesus told him, "Except a man be born of water and of the Spirit, he can not enter into the kingdom of God." It was not just a matter of seeing the kingdom but also of entering it. Many today can see the kingdom but they do not enter. Jesus decreed there must be a Spiritual not natural rebirth, but it was accomplished through natural agencies. There was a glimmer of faith within Nicodemus as there is in those who see Christ and His Church. Repentance should accompany that faith. Jesus instructs that water and the Spirit are necessary to complete this entering in.

Water is naturally life-giving and sustaining. Jesus saw the need of a natural element to accomplish a Spiritual purpose. With water baptism and the indwelling of the Holy Spirit, which Jesus establishes in that order, the one, who has seen the goodness of Jesus, the Church and the Christian Life, may enter rather than just gaze.

Gazers will not be rewarded. Moses did not enter the Promised Land. God gave him certain specific instructions to follow. When

he failed to follow them, he was barred from achieving his life's goal. Today we have been given specific directions for entering the Christian life. We are dealing with the same God who dealt with Moses. If we do not follow His directions, our fate will be the same. Do not merely look, but enter in.

## THE CENTER OF ATTENTION

The center of attention is the focal point. We notice it before we notice anything around it. It sends out a silent message which says 'look here'. It may also say 'see what I have to offer!' What it is, be it clothing, furniture, an activity, or whatever, it is intended to get our attention. Whatever the focal point, it has a message for us such as "try it", "buy it", "enjoy it". A center of attention may also draw our minds to some other matter, which is the real center of activity or the thing of value, such as a sale sign. We see the sign first, but the sale is the important part.

God has given us some focal points, or centers of attention, starting first in the Old Testament. We see many things there which get our attention, such as the Creation, Noah and the Ark, Daniel and the lion's den. But aside from these, one other thing stands out and that is the Law. The Law gave instructions for nearly every situation and draws our attention to the biggest problem of mankind — sin and separation from God. Rom. 7:7 says "I had not known sin, but by the law." The Law is a center of attention and in turn focuses our attention on sin and its consequences.

From that focal point, we move to another one, this time in the New Testament. It is the Cross on which Jesus died. The Cross focuses on Jesus, and draws our attention to Him. The Law focused on sin and its results; the Cross focuses on the remedy for sin. The Law focused on man's helplessness; the Cross focuses on the source of all strength, our Savior. The Law established guilt and made man aware of sin, but the Law couldn't save us (see Rom. 3:20). When Jesus died on the Cross to redeem us, He provided for us what the Law could not do.

"Wherefore the law was our schoolmaster to bring us unto Christ, that we might be justified by faith. But after that faith is come, we are no longer under a schoolmaster." Gal. 3:24-25. A schoolmaster is a teacher, and we are no longer under this teacher. Rather than focusing our attention on the Law, we must now focus our attention on the law-giver, Jesus. Our faith is to be in Him and His saving power, not in a set of rules which explains our need of Jesus.

Jesus said, "I am the way, the truth, and the life." John 14:6a. This cannot be said of anyone or anything else. He's the only Savior we have. "No man cometh unto the Father, but by me." (14:6b.) This rules out any man-made ideas about salvation. It eliminates any notion that says we are good enough as we are. The only way to our Heavenly Father is through Christ, and He should be the focal point of our lives.

When we focus our eyes and heart on Jesus, we see our only source of help. We see His wholeness and perfection, and our imperfection. We see the One who loves us more than anyone else does. Jesus is truly love in action. He said, "Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13. He did lay down His life for us, and surely He deserves our full attention, our loyal service, and our lives.

Jesus is the center — the focal point — of every Christian's life. Jesus said, "And I, if I be lifted up from the earth, will draw all men unto me." John 12:32. He definitely became the central figure when He was crucified, and ever since that time, mankind has been drawn to Jesus. Those who truly accept Him and commit their lives to Him have a special relationship with Jesus. They know they are saved to serve Jesus and their lives are now centered on Him.

Is Jesus the focal point of your life? If not, then you are. True, you may place your family first, or your job or some other interest, but whatever it is, you are making the choices. You are the one in control. When Jesus is first in your life, then He is in control. Whoever is in control is the focal point of your life, the center of attention. You must make a decision about it, because the Christian's life is not one of joint-control with Christ.

Jesus alone has earned the right to be our center of attention, the very center of our lives. He has everything we need. He can do for us everything which we can't do for ourselves. He is the only remedy for sin and its consequences in our lives. Now is the time to pay attention to Jesus, to accept His call to salvation. Now is the time to put Jesus first in your life. Will you?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The kind of person God wants me to be.... COURAGEOUS

To live successfully and at peace in this last part of the twentieth century you have to be courageous. Courage is the conviction that will overcome any obstacle, however threatening or dangerous it might be. If you have Godly courage, you will say, "yes", when the average person says, "I can't." Joshua and Caleb said, "yes", when ten other spies who had ventured into the promised land said, "I

can't." The Israelites faithlessly followed the ten and that reaction is not uncommon today.

There is a risk in courage that shows you to be a person of faith. We must learn how to take risks for God and not be foolish. Jonathan took a risk and turned the tide of a campaign against the Philistines in I Sam. 14:6-15. Esther took a risk and delivered the Jews from genocide. Daniel's three friends took a risk and Jesus saw them through their punishment. Pontius Pilate wouldn't take a risk relative to his reputation and he lost... eternally.

True acts of Christian courage result in God receiving all of the glory. If you act on your own to receive the glory yourself, this is not godly courage but selfish pride. David did not kill the lion... he said the Lord enabled him to do it. The same was true of Goliath.

Courage rises, not out of your ability to cope with a fearful situation but rather out of a great faith in God and through His ability to strengthen you. We are continually reminded in the Word not to be afraid because God is present with us. David taught us in Psalms 46, "God is... a very present help in trouble. Therefore we will not fear." When we rest our strength in an omnipotent God, we have safety. Faith says that God will willingly strengthen us.

It is said that the fear of God destroys all of our other fears. In reality, the one who fears God need fear nothing else. Conversely, if you do not fear God, you need logically fear everything. The threat of being thrown into the lions den didn't keep Daniel from praying. Satan threatens us in the same way and would keep us from obedience by persuading us to consider the possible grave consequences for acting positively for God. From youth up we need to grow in our confidence in the Lord and gain strength and courage. Now we are not just talking about gaining self confidence. That comes from experience or sometimes from certain personality characteristics. But we are talking about God given, confident courage.

Have you been attacked by fear lately. I suppose most of us have been. The only deliverance from that fear is by prayer... asking God to deliver you from it. You must face it head on. If you run from it, it will conquer you... and you'll have to face it again.

Courage will allow you to stand alone and witness for Christ. It will allow you to resist sin and face odds that seem impossible. It will allow you to gain strength to better conquer the next temptation.

Consider fears as opportunities for God. Our faith increases as we see Him carry us through those difficult and awkward situations. And remember, you are not alone. Most of the men God has called to work for Him have not jumped at the idea of being used by an all-powerful Creator. But through greater trust in Him, courage grew and they became warriors for righteousness sake.

Have courage to stand alone. When a group is moving in one direction and your convictions tell you to move in the other (right) direction, have courage to do it. When others criticize the church leaders or others in the Body, have courage to stand up for right. I believe that our generation does not lack for daring men... but there are few who are courageous. I challenge you to build courage in the face of our pessimistic, immoral and passive society. Respond with conviction. And remember, FEAR IS FAITHLESS AND FAITH IS FEARLESS.

Brother Len Wertz

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

### OUR CREED

J. H. Moore

In carrying forward the work of the Master has entrusted to his people, the church that is wise as well as loyal, will accept the New Testament for her creed. Here will be found a rule of faith and practice that is backed up by Divine Authority, and is perfectly adapted to the conditions and needs of the church in every age and country. Here will be found the principles or fundamentals of the Christian religion clearly stated. The duties, privileges and responsibilities are pointed out, and it is the duty of the church to adopt, from time to time, the wisest possible methods for carrying out these principles. In some respects, wisdom may dictate some changes in methods, but the principles, being divine, never change.

It is highly important that we do not confuse principles and methods, and that we do not attempt to elevate local and temporary methods to the dignity of principles. And while this is true, such methods of carrying on the Lord's work, as are set forth in the Scriptures, should be duly and sacredly respected. The New Testament, as the creed of the New Testament church, delegates, to any well-organized church of Jesus Christ, authority to teach and properly enforce all the requirements and demands of the Gospel; and, guided by wisdom and love for souls, along with a sacred regard for the purity and dignity of the church, no congregation can afford to tolerate in her ranks deliberate departures from the plain duties enjoined upon the members of the body of Christ. The teachings of the New Testament are intended for the government of the church, and those in charge of the Master's interest should see to it that they are respected.

## THEY WHICH BUILDED

Nehemiah 4:17, "They which builded on the wall, and they that bare burdens, with those that laded, everyone with one of his hands wrought in the work, and with the other hand held a weapon."

Nehemiah 4:6, "So built we the wall; and all the wall was joined together unto the half thereof: for the people had a mind to work."

Do not be deceived by the comfortable times in which we live. In order to do the work of the Lord it must be that we are found with a weapon in our hand. Let that sword be the Sword of the Spirit. Let us not enter into conversation with our Brethren without it. Let us not seek to win souls for the Kingdom without it.

Keep in mind that the devil appears as an angel of light and in times like these when we cry peace and safety are the times when evil can triumph. When Nehemiah returned to Jerusalem he took no chances. The walls had been reduced to rubble and though at times it appeared to be safe and quiet the enemy was everywhere to cast down and destroy. We cannot allow evil to ever get the upper hand in our lives because, as in the case of Nehemiah, the rebuilding is often harder and more dangerous than the initial building. It is far easier to maintain a wall already built than to rebuild one which has fallen down.

Never attempt to build without that weapon in your hand. We cannot do the work of God using our own strength. We must look to Him. He will supply. The precepts and religion of man will only fall away and die, BUT GOD will supply our every need if we look only to Him.

The people had a mind to work. They were united in the purpose of rebuilding the wall and nothing would interfere with that purpose. May we have this mind also. If a worker would have put his weapon down, he may have been able to work faster, but he, and his workers close by, would have been unprotected. May our minds be single in the work of the Lord. We can do all things through Christ who strengthens us.

In Christian Love,  
Brother Lynn H. Miller  
RD 2 Box 561  
Newmanstown, PA 17073

## 1986 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

SATURDAY P.M.

Bro. Len Wertz opened I John 4:7-11, I John 3:9-18, I John 1:9-16. We are not living for ourselves. We are living for Christ. God's love is to respect others. We should have love one for the other. Love is what it is all about.

Bro. Jan Heisey, Matt. 17:1-9, Mountain Top Experience. To be alone with Jesus on the mountain top was a wonderful experience for the Disciples. Peter said, "Lord it is good for us to be here." Do we take Jesus with us when we travel through this life? The Apostle Paul was struck down to get him turned around. He became a Disciple for Christ. If we do not listen to the word of God our hearts will become sick. Are we glad to go to the house of God and hear God's precious Word, and to have fellowship with Jesus? Do we have a family altar and study the Word of God? Do we teach the little children God's Holy Word? Jesus gave His life for us so we can gain salvation and gain our great reward.

Bro. Terry Gunderman, I Cor. 3, Judgment must start in the house of God. We need to have our Bible with us and have it handy when we go any place. We must read and study out of it. People don't want to hear about sin. There is suffering and striking with Bible believing people. The Scribes and Pharisees did not want to believe in Christ's teachings. Lots of people today do not want to hear the Word of God. What is the Church today? If the churches are so good why is there so much sin in the world? If the righteous scarcely be saved, where will the sinner be? Let's be that Church God wants us to be. Hold fast to the teaching of Christ.

Bro. William Heisey closed. We have heard much from the Word of God. The coming of the Lord will be a great mountain top experience. We must have fear of God and live according to His teaching.

## SATURDAY EVENING

Bro. Rudy Cover opened. Psalms 27. Love one another. It's a great blessing to worship here together. Wait on the Lord. He will lead and guide us if we trust in Him.

Bro. Joseph Flora, Romans 13:10-14. Awake. And that knowing the time that now is the high time to awake out of sleep, for now is our salvation nearer than we believed. We may not have much time. We must wake up. We are facing a crisis. Agriculture and Government and the Churches are experiencing a crisis and will keep on until Christ comes again. We dare not to be like the world. The world walks in darkness. To become more liberal is not the answer. May His Word grow and multiply as you leave this place.

Bro. Charles Leatherman closed. Are we easily awakened? The enemy sows tares while we sleep spiritually. When we wake up it will be too late.

## SUNDAY A.M.

Bro. Harley Flory opened. Heb. 2. We must glorify our Heavenly Father and our beloved Savior, Jesus Christ. We must give our earnest heed to the things that we heard and not let them slip.

Bro. David Ebling, I John 5:1-16, Prov. 29:18. Our Heavenly Father wants us to be alert and not let Satan deceive us. Communism is trying to capture our young people. We must get our hearts right and let the Holy Spirit work within us and we will not be deceived so easily with the work of Satan. We have to be a righteous people to stand firm for the Word of God. You cannot gain victory unless you put your heart into God's work and live faithfully. We must go to our beloved Savior, Jesus for our guidance. We need to pray fervently. We will be a new creature if we live for Christ. Christ died on the cross that you and I might live. Christ is at the right hand of God. We can get salvation through Christ.

Bro. Eugene Kauffman, I Peter 3:10-18, Spiritual Vitamins for Growing Souls. Christ expects us to grow spiritually. To grow spiritually one must learn from the Holy Word. We must have prayer to help us grow spiritually. Jesus often times prayed to His Father. God hears our prayers wherever we are. Studying the Bible also helps us grow spiritually. Daily confession of sin also will help us grow spiritually. Satan at all times tries to deceive us. Church attendance is very important for us to grow spiritually. It's a very essential vitamin. Meditation is a very important vitamin. Let our minds work spiritually. Christian activity also helps us grow spiritually. We learn from the Holy Word. Soul winning is very essential. We must warn others of their soul's salvation. Let us not be neglectful to help others who do not know Jesus. Teach them to except Him as their personal Savior. These vitamins will help us to make stronger Christians.

Bro. Charles Leatherman closed. We gain victory in prayer if we grow spiritually.

#### SUNDAY P.M.

Bro. Dean St. John opened. Ezra 8:21. We must leave for these children, the Right Way. They will be the Church of tomorrow. The old paths lead to honesty and truths. The old paths would find us walking in humility. The old paths finds us walking in the spirit of love. The old paths will find us being nonconformed to this world. The old paths will lead us to meekness. May we seek that right way for our little ones.

Bro. Harley Rush, I Sam. 17:32-52, The Victory. We must put on the helmet of God and the sword of salvation. Satan is ready to destroy the faith in God in a righteous man. We have a work to do in this world. Tribulation or chastisement tests our faith in the Lord. Let us keep our faith in the Heavenly Father to gain victory.

Bro. Hayes Reed, Gen. 12:1-3, Gen. 17:7-8, The Jews and the Middle East. If Christ would come right now would you be ready to meet Him? Freedom of religion is wonderful but freedom from

Satan and sin is greater yet. We have many religions today. There are a lot of religions today that are false. Israel was scattered to the four corners of the Earth in the 700 B.C.'s according to God's will. Many of the Jews have returned to the Middle East since 1967 and more and more of them are returning back to their homeland. They are getting ready for the end times. Jesus Christ can save the lost souls in this world. Let's do our part to win lost souls to Jesus. Christ is coming again. Let us all live faithful till He comes.

Bro. Roy Swihart closed. We don't want to be weary. We must keep pressing on. We want to put on the whole armor of God. We need the prayers of each other.

#### SUNDAY EVENING

Bro. Edward Johnson opened, Acts 1:1, Luke 1:3. Jesus took them up in a mountain when He ascended. He said He will come again in like manner. Would you be ready to meet Him if you saw Him coming.?

Bro. Warren Smith, Rom. 5, Justification. Jesus is coming again. Every eye shall see Him. There will be many that won't want to see Him. They will cry for the mountains to fall on them. We must have faith to please God. Without faith it is impossible to please God. He that believeth in Christ shall have life. He that does not believe in Christ is dead already. The Apostle Paul said by the grace of God I am what I am. If it was not for the grace of God we would not be here to this meeting. There will be a crown of righteousness waiting for us if we live faithful before God. Jesus said He will never leave us if we do not forsake Him. We won't find justification in cigarettes, in drinking liquor or drugs. These sinful situations have broken many homes. May we be a justified people living here for our Savior.

Bro. Fred Pifer, Gen. 22:1-15, Here Am I, My Son, Young people's message. Many times sons and daughters cry out "Father!". Maybe sin causes them to cry out "Father!" Isaac knew there was going to be a sacrifice. Abraham had everything ready to slay his son. Here was this obedient son willing to be slain. If you young people need to communicate with your parents go to them with your problem. If they are not living godly go to a godly person for your answer. While you are young remain teachable. When you go to mother or father let them teach you spiritually. They will teach you the love of Jesus. They can teach you why the Church tries to live according to the teachings of Christ. Abraham had faith in God that somehow his son would not have to be slain. Isaac lay on the altar bound ready to be slain. Abraham heard God's voice from Heaven. A lamb was caught by the horns in the bush. Abraham used the lamb for the sacrifice and his son was spared. You young people try not to be like the prodigal son. He left home, wasted all his

money and lived in sin. This young man had godly parents. He found himself and decided to go back home to father and ask to be a hired servant. Father was so willing to forgive his son. This poor son sinned against Heaven. He told his father he was not justified to be called his father's son. The prodigal son was seen afar off by his father. The father said "my son" he was lost and now he is found. When Jesus was hanging on the cross Jesus' mother said "my son". Young people I want to encourage you to go to mother or father about the storms of life. If God is calling you answer Him, "Here am I."

Bro. Frank Shaffer closed. Justified by God. Christ died for you and me.

To be continued  
Sister Alice Heisey

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

August 1, 1926

### LIFE A PILGRIMAGE

Zora Montgomery

When a little girl in school my teacher once told me there was no true definition for life. Many had been given, but none exactly fulfilled the meaning. Perhaps this is so when looking at it from a scientific point of view; but when looking at it from God's standpoint, it seems to me he might say, "Life is a Pilgrimage." Let us now go about to see how this may be. Webster says, "A pilgrimage is a journey of a pilgrim to a holy place." Are we not pilgrims? Is not Heaven, the place to which we are journeying, a holy place? And does not our journeying take a lifetime? Therefore it seems to me God's idea of a life is a pilgrimage.

Let us take the life of Abraham. He was born in Ur of the Chaldees, which was a very wicked place, and which would have indeed been a place of bondage to him had he stayed there all his lifetime. God spoke to him and told him to leave his homeland and people, and to go to a land that He would show him. (Gen. 12:1) This Abraham proceeded to do, which took him to the land of Canaan, a holy land.

For a further example, let us take the life of the Israelites. God had given Abraham, Isaac and Jacob the promise of making them a great nation. We all know the stories of these, and of how Joseph was sold into Egypt; the famine, and of how God provided for this through Joseph; how Jacob and his children were brought down into Egypt, and there became slaves to the Egyptians. Here, in this land of bondage, the Israelite nation was born.

Are we today not born in bondage to a world of sin as was this

nation? Is it not indeed just such a hard and bitter bondage too? From this we must first be delivered in order to start on our journey to the holy land. God raised up and sent leaders to deliver these people. He has sent His only begotten Son into this world of bondage to deliver us. Are we as anxious to believe and follow him closely in everything. He says, as were the Israelites to follow their leaders? We may say, when we start to completely surrender our lives to Christ, that it is too difficult to change our ways for His, and we must make such a struggle that our bondage only seems the heavier. Was it not so with the Israelites? Was not their bondage increased when Moses asked for permission to deliver them? Now, are we in starting on our pilgrimage really doing as well as they?

Well, when the Israelites did get started they had many hardships. When they came to the Red Sea and saw no way to cross, what would have happened had some of them turned back and gone into the hands of the Egyptians? Would they have had the chance of being released again? To us it looks almost hopeless. How hopeless then is it for us, when we start to follow Jesus and then turn back to that world of bondage?

“Have you come to the Red Sea place in your life  
When, in spite of all you can do,  
There is no way out, there is no way back,  
There is no other way but through?”

When the Israelites had crossed the Red Sea, it meant new life to them, just as it means new life to us after our conversion. But, after we are converted we are not yet free from hardships. The Israelites had many trying experiences. They became hungry, they became thirsty, they thought their leader had forsaken them, and they became discouraged which brought many temptations to their lives.

When they became hungry God fed them with manna. When we become hungry for spiritual food God feeds us from His own precious Word. “Blessed are they which do hunger and thirst after righteousness, for they shall be filled.” (Matt. 5:6.)

These people did not only have men as their leaders, but they had the guidance of the pillar of cloud and fire. We today, do not only have Christ as our leader, but we have the guidance of the Holy Spirit.

God also gave them a law by which to go, just as He has given us His Holy Word. He told them how to erect a tabernacle in which they might offer sacrifices and pay their homage to Him. He has provided a way for us to have church houses and places of worship.

But though this Holy Land was no farther away it took a long time, forty years, to make this journey. Just so, Heaven may not be

far from us, but sometimes it takes a long time to discipline our lives so that we may be able to reach it. We read that only two, who started from Egypt, were permitted to reach this promised land. Are we, of this vacillating throng letting God rule our lives that we may be as those two, or, are we yielding to the discouragements that Satan has in store for us?

We who have crossed this Red Sea, conversion, are going toward the promised land, our heavenly home. We do not know just what this land is, or what it will be like; but we do know that it is worth striving for in comparison to this old world of sin and bondage. God at certain times in our lives gives glimpses of its glories, and gives us promises as He did Abraham, Isaac and Jacob and their descendants. These promises are a great strength to us on our journey.

"God gives oftentimes spirit glimpses  
Of that glorious home afar,  
And to cheer life's thorny pathway  
Sets the golden gates ajar."

We know when we reach this land that it will be all and everything that God has promised. Can we afford to not start on this pilgrimage or even turn back when once started?

## NEWS ITEMS

### DALLAS CENTER, IOWA

We are looking forward to two weeks Revival Meetings here at Dallas Center, starting August 3. Bro. Jan Heisey will conduct the meetings which will finish with communion services August 16.

Come and worship with us.

Sister Mary Sue Moss, Cor.

### WAYNESBORO, PENNSYLVANIA

The Waynesboro Congregation is looking forward to having a revival, August 31 through September 7. The Lord willing Bro. Berton Smith will be with us to preach the Gospel. We invite all to come and enjoy these services with us.

The Waynesboro Congregation would like to announce a change in our scheduled Lovefeast. There will be no Lovefeast the second Sunday of October. We thank all who have supported us in these services in the past.

Sister Wilma Eberly, Cor.

### MINISTERIAL LIST CHANGE

The new address of Bro. Rudy Shaffer is: 71 Bomberger Road, Lititz, Pennsylvania 17543.

## OBITUARY

### RICHARD HOFFMAN

Richard A. Hoffman, Sr. was born on May 15, 1929 in Pine Grove Township, and entered Eternal Rest on February 26, 1986. His earthly sojourn was 56 years, 9 months, and 11 days. On May 10, 1954 he was married to Dorothy J. Wolfe, who survives. Also left to mourn his departure are two sons, Randall L., of Florida and Richard A., Jr., at home; one daughter, Mrs. Darlene M. Noll, and four grandchildren all of Pine Grove area. A son, Terry L., preceded him in death on October 4, 1966.

He was an active member of the Schuylkill Church of the Brethren, Pine Grove, where funeral services were conducted on Saturday, March 1, 1986, at 10:00 A.M., in charge of Galen R. Hackman. The text was John 14. Hymns included "Safe in the Arms of Jesus", and "Some Time We'll Understand." The body was tenderly laid to rest in the adjacent Brethren Cemetery, there to await the Resurrection Morn.

We wish to express heartfelt appreciation to the many members and friends of the Household of Faith who remembered us with visits, prayers, cards, planters, and various expressions of love, help, and concern during our difficult Hour of Sorrow, and times of adjustment following the sudden departure of our Loved One.

We sorrow not as those who have no hope, but rather our hearts are solaced with the blessed assurance of John 11:25-26. We believe Earth's Loss to be Heaven's Gain. II Corinthians 5:1.

The Family

## MARRIAGE

### ZIMMERMAN - SOWERS

Mr. Harold Zimmerman, son of Mr. and Mrs. Levi Zimmerman, Bethel, Pennsylvania and Sis. Janice Sowers, daughter of Bro. Charles Sowers and the late Sis. Ruby Sowers, Smithsburg, Maryland were united in marriage February 1, 1986. The wedding service was held at the home of Bro. and Sis. David Ebling. The service was performed by Elder David Ebling.

The couple is residing at 11878 Williamsport Pike, Greencastle, Pennsylvania 17225.

## HELP !

The Editor recently received a change of address card postmarked Cumberland, Maryland. The information side of the card was not filled out. To prevent your Monitor from being missent please send the information to the Editor as soon as possible.

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(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

AUGUST 15, 1986

NO. 16

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## YOUR LORD

Your Lord has been so wonderful  
He has blessed you day by day,  
There's not a thing He cannot do  
As He guides you the narrow way.

Don't be surprised if you're tempted,  
Your Lord was tempted too,  
Just don't give in to temptation  
It can bring destruction to you.

Stand for the faith once delivered  
To the saints many years ago -  
Don't let yourself be persuaded  
By someone who may be your foe.

Cling to your love and compassion  
And use them whenever there's need.  
Whenever you have a good chance  
Let it be used to sow good seed.

Keep laying up treasures in Heaven  
Sometime you will be glad they're there,  
And I am hoping to meet you  
In that city that is "Four-square."

Sister Irene Stout  
R. 1 Box 160, Wabash, IN 46992

## CONTROVERSY

Human history is full of controversy. Whether vocal arguments, armed assault or warfare, men have spent a lot of time and money on disagreeing with each other.

Although men may organize debating clubs or International peace organizations, he still ends up in controversy. Not only is this true among modern men but there was controversy within the first human family. Cain and Abel were not agreed in their interpretation and implementation of God's Word.

By slaying an animal to provide the proper clothing for Adam and Eve, after sin made their nakedness evil, God set an example of shedding blood to cover sin. By whatever other directive given to Cain and Abel, they knew it was time to bring their sacrifices. Each did. Cain failed to bring a bloody sacrifice, instead he brought grain. The grain was good but it was bloodless. Here was disagreement between the two brothers. Although Abel did not need to say anything, his righteous deed brought reproach and condemnation upon Cain.

Cain could still have righted himself if his wounded pride had not refused to barter some grain for a bled animal. God continues to give men the opportunity to put away their own ideas of serving Him and to accept His. Like Cain most still prefer their own way whether it be through indifference toward God or through heathenistic, false religion or through half-way measures. Men still carry on their controversy with God, although they may vocally profess great reverence and service toward Him. Often like Cain they rise up in opposition to the righteous often making their religious service difficult.

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

AUGUST 15, 1986

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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This controversy between men, even of the same family, is a reflection of man's controversy with God. Because men do not or will not follow God's directives, they are fighting God. Cain rose up and slew his righteous brother. Even though he hid the body and destroyed all the evidence, Cain could not hide his deed from God. He had carried his controversy with his brother beyond an earthly disagreement, he had now entered a controversy with God.

Cain had killed righteous Abel. The blood of Abel cried out, pointing the finger of guilt at Cain all his days. With the death of Abel, God needed a new line to carry on His righteous work. The third son, Seth, was given to Adam and Eve so God would have a family to serve Him. Jesus, righteous Abel, was slain by a hypocritical, religious Cain, the scribes and Pharisees. God again raised a new Seth - the Church - to serve Him. Men's controversy with God had led them to kill the righteous Son of God. The blood cried out as a witness against them. Whether Jew or Gentile all stood condemned of fighting against God. The Gentile had been indifferent to God or had worshipped his own man-made gods. The Gentile represented by the Romans carried out the death sentence. The Jews, the perverted religious leaders of the day, were in such conflict with God that their ardor was even greater than that of the Romans.

The first great controversy though was not on the earth. It was in Heaven. Lucifer, one of the leading angels, led a third of the angels in revolt against God. He wanted to be at least equal with God rather than one of His main helpers. Pride pushed him to an unobtainable position. God is a jealous God. He does not share power or prestige with any. He does exalt those who will humbly serve Him. This exaltation has been given to Jesus, who meekly served His Father, rather than to the foward angel.

Lucifer, as the serpent, transferred this controversy from Heaven to earth when he appeared to Eve in the garden. Before he could only foment rebellion among the angels. Now with recently created man he had a new field of labor. He would lead this creature in rebellion against God also.

By deception he came to Eve and Adam to lead them into controversy with God. He planted a doubt within Eve concerning the truthfulness of God's Word. God meant what He said about the forbidden fruit but Satan caused Eve to doubt. Doubting, she was ready to partake of the forbidden. She and Adam entered the controversy against God. This was soon evident in their family when Cain rose up and slew righteous Abel. That rebellion is still found in Adam's family, though thousands of years and many generations later.

Controversies among men are natural. Pride, jealousy, hatred

and disrespect bring men into conflict. Even worse is the controversy that men engage in with God. As their father is in conflict with God, so they are opposed to Him.

Are you involved in controversy with God? If so, you need to resolve it. Rather than following Cain you must look to the righteous Abel — the faithful Son, and be identified with Seth, the new followers of God. Be a righteous servant rather than a rebellious one so you may have that future Heavenly exaltation.

## WE'RE GETTING BY

Overheard in a conversation was this statement, "But we're getting by." It was made regarding financial matters by a person apparently satisfied with the present, and with little thought about the overall picture. How often we do the same thing spiritually! We look at our present situation and we think it's not too bad, so we say "we're getting by." But are we? Does God intend for us to be satisfied with just getting by? The answer obviously is, "no."

Getting by is a mediocre, passive existence. It lacks vitality, victory, and worthwhile accomplishments. Getting by nearly always means doing less than your best. Doing just enough to get by could mean you barely avoid dismissal from a job. It could mean you don't really care about what you're doing. It could also mean you are living only for today, with no concern for, or awareness of, future needs. It is true that we don't live in the future, but we must give it some thought. Our present actions determine future consequences.

When we compare our personal goals with God's Will for our lives, does it make sense to think we can get by with little attention to Him? The children of Israel didn't get by, as they were not allowed to enter the Promised Land on schedule and some never entered it. They didn't trust God to see them through and they only got by temporarily. Soon they had to face the facts, and they suffered a lot for their unbelief and half-hearted service. Their hearts apparently were still back in Egypt, and they did not plan their lives according to God's Will.

Samson didn't get by, nor did Jonah, David or Saul, and we won't either. God requires wholehearted service, not just getting by. No man can serve two masters (Matt. 6:24) and we must make a choice. Either we will serve God, or serve ourselves and our own interests. If we do only enough for the Lord to get by for now, we will eventually have to face our neglect. "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Gal. 6:7.

"And every one that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth

them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand." Matt. 7:26. It is indeed foolish to build on sand, because it only provides temporary support. It is even more foolish to ignore the Lord's teachings and seek an easier way to get by. Like a poorly-constructed building, our spiritual house will one day collapse and we'll be in the rubble of neglect.

It is also sin to ignore Jesus' teachings, or to attempt to get by with half-hearted service. "Therefore to him that knoweth to do good, and doeth it not, to him it is sin." James 4:17. Once we've heard the Word and know what we should do, we have a responsibility to do it. We will be held accountable for the knowledge we have, and if we neglect our responsibility, we will have to face it eventually. We will get by only for now.

"But this I say, he which soweth sparingly shall reap also sparingly; and he which soweth bountifully shall reap also bountifully." II Cor. 9:6. If we plant only a few seeds, we'll have a skimpy harvest. But if we plant generously, we're much more likely to receive an abundant harvest. Likewise, if we put little into our Christian walk, that's what we'll get back, much like the person who buried his talent. But, if we put our whole hearts into service, we'll reap an abundant life here as well as in Eternity. See also Luke 6:38.

"I was a stranger, and ye took me not in: naked, and ye clothed me not: sick and in prison, and ye visited me not." Matt. 25:43. It is quite easy to ignore the needs of others, and think we're getting by, but such is not the case. Jesus said we serve Him by serving those around us. If we ignore them, we are in effect ignoring Jesus. If you will read a few more verses in Matt. 25, you will see that there were those who ministered to their fellowmen, and they were blessed for it.

No one ever gets by! Every action brings a reaction, and neglect brings its own kind of reaction. Someday we'll have to face those neglected opportunities, and times of carelessness and failure to do what needed to be done. If you've been in the habit of 'just getting by', ask Jesus to set you free from that bondage. "Meditate upon these things; give yourself wholly to them." I Tim. 4:15.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The kind of person God wants me to be... ATTENTIVE

One of the first things a minister notices as he brings his message to a congregation is whether they are attentive or not. There seems to be a direct relationship between being attentive and being interested in God's Word.

Attentiveness is the ability to listen to and listen THROUGH. We might identify a person who listens through as one who not only tries to hear what another person is saying but feel what he feels. An attentive person listens to what a person is saying, how he is saying it and why he is saying it. It actually takes sacrifice to be attentive to others. There are always many distractions around us which we need to block out. It is also important to understand that I am not equating a listener to a person with an "open mind." That kind of person absorbs any "garbage" he is fed. An attentive listener is a selective and a thinking listener.

Most of all, we are called to listen to God. How many of us have had difficulty learning to hear and obey Him because we have never been taught to be attentive to anyone... our parents, teachers, minister, and so forth? The art of listening needs to be cultivated in our lives. Attentiveness tells another person he is important and his ideas or words are of value.

In a sense, an attentive person assumes the role of a servant. If you are only thinking of what you are going to say next, rather than concentrating on what the other person is saying, you are not an attentive person. Attentiveness elicits a response. How many times have we not communicated Jesus because we have turned someone off before our conversation with him was over.

Is it possible to sit under right teaching and never learn? Jesus frequently said, "He that hath ears to hear, let him hear." Do we sit in church and "let the sermon go in one ear and out the other?" If so, it has not been productive being there. We don't just absorb spiritually from being there as some would seem to think. Attention and participation are a must in learning.

We are taught in Psalms 34, "When the righteous cry for help, the Lord hears and delivers." God is attentive. He sees the smallest sparrow fall and knows the number of hairs on our heads. He is ALWAYS listening for our call. In fact, He wants us to speak with Him so he can listen. If we would be godly, we must be attentive.

In the analogy of the shepherd and the sheep, Jesus emphasized both aspects of being attentive when He said that the sheep HEAR His voice and FOLLOW Him. Speaking through John to the Church of Laodicea, He said, "If any man hear my voice, and open the door, I will come in to him, and will sup with him, and he with me." As a result on not hearing the Laodicean church had become lukewarm and displeasing to God.

Balaam was not attentive to God when he was instructed by Him and he was communicated to by an animal as a result. If God tells us to do something, we are to do it. We may find all sorts of excuses... but excuses are unexcusable!

Only as we listen do we become qualified to speak ourselves. Jesus could speak because He listened to His Father. Jesus wants to speak through us. If we are attentive to Him, we will be able to share His words and His will to others.

When a leper underwent purification, the priest daubed blood on his right ear. The ear was then anointed with oil. This portrayed the Holy Spirit's anointing. An important part of spiritual wholeness is attentiveness to God.

I encourage you to become more attentive in the future than you have been in the past. Listen and waken your mind and heart to communication from God as you never have before.

Brother Len Wertz.

## 1986 GENERAL CONFERENCE SERMON NOTES

(Continued from August 1, 1986 Issue)

### MONDAY A.M.

Bro. Alvin Chupp opened. II Cor. 2. We need building blocks. Building blocks are for the Lord. There is only one way to build. Beautiful to walk in the steps of Jesus.

Bro. Rudy Shaffer. II Chron. 26, Psalms 119:16-24. We should respect others. The lack of being taught manners causes people to lose respect for others. We need to teach respect for others to our children. Teach them to have respect for Jesus and the Heavenly Father. Where is God in our life? Is our life each day in service for the Lord. God is important in our life. Do we see ourselves being God's messengers? We should respect our Lord first then ourselves. We should commit our lives completely to the Lord. Do we respect God's Holy Word? It's profitable for us to learn obedience. Satan attacks God's Word especially when it's a little hard for us to understand. Accept God's Word for what it says. We need to abide by God's Word. There is lost respect for God's Church. We must obey the teachings of Jesus. We should give respect for decisions in God's Church. A divided house cannot stand. We should have great respect for God's house. What is our purpose in going to God's house? We must honor and praise Him. We must show great reverence to Him. Let's feel His presence when we are in God's house. Let's have respect for our Heavenly Father and our service to Him.

Bro. Gordon Jamison closed. Psalms 8. Let's remember who we are serving. Let's have respect.

### MONDAY P.M.

Bro. Fred Pifer opened. Matt. 6:13-17. The Church is built on a solid foundation. Let us stay strong on that solid foundation.

Bro. Merle Sweitzer, Mark 7:1-24, Heart Disease in the Body of Christ. When our heart starts to give trouble it affects the whole body. When our heart gets sin in it we get sick spiritually. The effects of sin in our life will cause much scar tissue in our heart. If we live true to Jesus our hearts will not falter or get weak. If we are pliable the Holy Spirit will come into our heart and we will grow spiritually. If we are not pliable to God's Word it is impossible to please Him. Do we meditate on God's Holy Word like the Prophets of old? We must be careful what kind of reading material we are reading. Lots of reading material today can cause lust. Let's be careful what we read. If we read the Word of God our hearts will not become sick.

Bro. Dennis St. John, Jer. 30:11-13. Healing Medicines. We could have much sorrow and grief and not know which way to turn. We need that healing medicine as we submit to the will of God. Confess your faults one to another that you may be healed. A debtor is one who may owe something to another. Are we ready to forgive our debtors? Release the claim you have against someone. Where there is no forgiveness there is trouble. Jesus taught us to forgive one another. Confession and forgiveness brings healing medicines to our bodies.

Bro. Ronald Marks closed. Jesus is the bread of life. Is your heart clean and ready to receive Spiritual food?

#### MONDAY EVENING

Bro. Jacob Ness opened. Eph. 4:1-3, John 17:9-13. Let us all be of one mind in Christ.

Bro. Robert Carpenter, I Sam. 16:1-12. Everything in the world is measured accurately. Man can measure things today very accurately. Look into your heart and see how you measure up. If we want to measure our life, let's use the Word of God for comparison, standards and measurements. We don't know how to measure ourselves. Jesus Christ is the standard that we should measure up to in our lives and compare ourselves. We dare not add to or take from the Word of God. It takes all of the Word of God for us to live faithful until the end.

Bro. Frank Shaffer, Matt. 22:1-15, All Things Are Ready, Come. Noah was a faithful man. He built the ark and got ready for the flood. God is calling for the marriage supper. Are we ready? Jesus said "Come all of you and I will give you rest." Christ wants us to be ready. We must prepare our souls and live according to the will of Christ so we will be ready when God calls us home.

Bro. Virgil Leatherman closed. Measurements are very important in life. The Word of God is where we go to measure ourselves. Who so ever will, take of this water freely. Let us prepare our lives to be ready.

## TUESDAY A.M.

Bro. Rudy Shaffer opened. Matt. 21:69-75. Peter was betrayed. Has your speech betrayed you? Our speech will betray our heart if our heart is not pure and clean. Let our tongues be used to honor and glorify God.

Bro. Milton Cook, Gen. 6, Noah. The Lord repented and regretted he made man and placed him on the earth. God saw all the sin and wickedness on the earth. God was greatly grieved. If we look around us we can see the world is just as corrupt now as it was in the day of Noah. Noah was found true and faithful to God. We should never forget the grace of God. He sent His son for you and me. He had grace upon Noah. He gave Noah full instructions how to build the ark. God knew how much room it would take when he gave Noah the dimensions. Noah did as God told him when he built the ark. He put the animals, food and everything in the ark that God commanded. Rains began to fall, waters began to rise more and more and the people began to think Noah wasn't wrong after all. After Noah had everything in the ark including his family God shut the door and the flood destroyed the whole earth except Noah and the ark. The earth later dried up. Noah came back and offered a sacrifice. God gave Noah wonderful promises at this time. The rainbow was a token of God's promise to Noah. Noah tilled the earth after the flood and planted a vineyard. Noah committed a great sin because he became drunk from drinking too much wine that came from the grapes in his vineyard. Let's keep ourselves from sin and live faithful to the Savior. Noah did not live faithful to God. Satan attacked Noah. Let us take a warning.

Bro. Alvin Chupp closed. We have received the truth from God's Holy Word. Do you believe God will destroy the earth again? Are you warning others of their souls salvation? God will not destroy this earth by flood again. God's Holy Word says this earth will be destroyed by fire.

## TUESDAY P.M.

Bro. Paul Stump opened. I Peter 2:1-10. We should lay aside all evil. We should grow spiritually. We must stay on that solid rock foundation. What does it take to be a peculiar people? We should have a mark of distinction.

Bro. Gordon Jamison, Matt. 28:19-20. Go ye into the World means to reach out, teach God's Holy Word to lost souls. We must have Jesus in our heart if we want to teach the Bible to the unsaved. We should understand the scriptures if we want to be missionaries of God's Holy Word. God wants His gospel spread over the world. The Church needs every one to help find the unsaved and lead them to Christ. Tell the grandparents there is no retirement in the work of the Lord. Your prayer means a lot in the work of the Lord. Are we ready to work for Christ?

Bro. Rudy Shaffer closed. Are we taking the gospel to a lost and dying world? God has placed us here in the world with stewardship of the gospel. God has put us here to be a missionary for Him.

#### WEDNESDAY EVENING

Bro. Carl Broadwater opened. Phil. 4. We should rejoice in the Lord that we were able to attend this Conference.

Bro. Herman Jamison, Mark 1:16-21. God has a mission for everyone to do. Young mothers are doing the greatest mission work of all, training that little child when he is young to learn about Jesus. All of us should do mission work and try to win lost souls to Jesus. Do we really have a passion for lost souls?

Bro. Hayes Reed, Report of the Torreon Mission. Where are your priorities? The Church needs your help to support our mission field.

Bro. Warren Smith closed. The missionary work is to teach the gospel to the unsaved souls.

Sister Alice Heisey

## CHRISTIAN LOVE

Where is the true Christian love our faithful foreparents extended to one another? It was moved by their concern and help to one another. Christian love is as essential to the Christian as the breath of air is to our natural lives.

God so loved the world that He gave His only begotten Son for our redemption. Christ was willing to sacrifice His life for our redemption. He said love one another as I have loved you. When He was here on earth He gave us example of true Christian love.

True Christian love includes obeying the saving Gospel of Christ. When the Apostle Paul spoke of the fruits of the spirit he said the greatest of them was charity. He also said we can do many good deeds and if we have not charity we have nothing. True Christian love extends kindness to others. If we have the faith once and for all delivered unto the saints, we have true Christian love.

More than words are implied in true Christianity. When Christ was here on earth He said some honored Him with their lips but their hearts were far from Him. We are to love one another, our neighbors and our enemies. Are we living a Christian life that is a blessing and a good Christian example to others?

Those who have Christian love will not place unjust hardships upon others. Through disobedience the love of many has waxed cold. The saving gospel of Christ tells of some who left their first love. Through disobedience we can be separated from the blessings of God.

Carnal strife can be avoided through love. Love never fails. We can be showing love by returning good for evil. Those who have made crooked paths and continue to go therein will never know peace. Strife is destructive and leads to eternal destruction. Christian love, with all the fruits of the Spirit, leads to eternal peace. Doing good to others is implied in Christian love and exists in the lives of true Christians. It will lead to peace and joy in the home and Church.

We are to seek peace and ensue it. We cannot be a bright and shining light in this dark and sinful world and engage in carnal strife. Enmity and hatred are destructive. Christian love will lead into gathering sheaves for the Master's bouquet and the upbuilding of God's Kingdom here on earth. It is a sad condition when professing Christians enter into carnal strife. When the Christian's light turns to darkness it becomes a bad example for others.

We cannot serve two masters. If we are faithful and true to the saving Gospel of Christ we will take the straight and narrow way of the Cross. We will hate evil and love good. Love covers all sins. There is no fear in love. We need the faith that worketh by love.

Those who love the Lord hate evil. We need Christian love, not the world and its evils which exclude Christian love. Let brotherly love continue, which is of God. Owe no man anything but to love one another. Grace be unto them that love the Lord. We have Christian love because Christ first loved us. Love permeates kindness, patience and peace.

It often comes to my memory concerning an Elder who passed many years ago. He preached many sermons on love because he saw the love of many was waxing cold. There was straying from the way of truth and righteousness. As time passed, you could see the good seed was falling on stony ground. It appears in this day and age much good seed is falling on stony ground. What could be done to get more people to accept the way of truth and righteousness?

They that love the Lord shall prosper. We are to love our Saviour because He first loved us. Them that love the Lord hate evil. Love leads to kindness. Grace is with them who love the Lord. We should not be lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God. Love not the world neither the things that are in the world. If any man love the world the love of the father is not in him. Let nothing separate us from the love of Christ. The faith that worketh by love. All things work together for good to them that love the Lord.

Brother J. F. Marks  
804 W. Sundial Loop  
Plant City, FL 33566

## CONSTANTLY ABIDING

As we were going about our work this morning, one of our songs was "Constantly Abiding."

If we've accepted Christ as our Savior and He reigns within our hearts, there IS a peace that the world never gave or can take away from us. Even though we have trying situations, we know that our Heavenly Father stands with arms outstretched to us to guide us through.

If only the people out in the dark, cold world of sin could feel the peaceful feeling that a true believer enjoys.

Constantly abiding in Christ involves daily worshipping and regular attendance at church services. Our earthly possessions no longer seem so precious to us. Other things become more dear to us.

What a precious thing to ponder — that Jesus promises never to leave us or forsake us! What a loving Savior we have!

In Christian love,  
Sister Karen Blocher  
Bradford, OH

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

August 15, 1926

THE CHURCH

Jacob Heffley

To the loyal and faithful in the Church — greetings. (Acts 2:41-44) "Then they that gladly received his word were baptized: and the same day were added unto them about three thousand souls. And they continued steadfastly in the apostle's doctrine and fellowship, and in the breaking of bread, and in prayer. And fear came upon every soul: and many wonders and signs were done by the apostles. And all that believed were together, and had all things common." These are just a few things of all that are written for our meditation, for our instruction, for our consolation, and for our comfort. Whenever a man would know of some good thing, which has a good success, then he reaches to the depth of his all to get it. And so dearly beloved followers of the meek and lowly Nazarene: Jesus, when we think of "The Church" let us just turn our Bible, unto this second chapter of Acts. Yes, to me it brings rich truths. We read, "Then they who gladly received his word were baptized." When question was brought before us, "Do you willingly renounce satan with all his pernicious ways and all the sinful pleasures of this world." When we think of our own lives it does not look as though

the sinful pleasures of this world were renounced when we still continue in them, love and cherish them, and seemingly feel no need of restitution or making things all right. Again how about those in the church who have the finest automobiles, finest dress, following the latest fashion of this world, just so we are not quite like the world, with a large number, very well versed in the Bible but with their fair speeches deceive the hearts the simple. Yet they express themselves that the word of God is very interesting. I ask what will it profit if we study for the interest of things if we are not willing to comply with the Gospel? Too much love of the world to reach the higher ground of our well beloved forefathers who have stood many, many battles of life and have been faithful until death. Now while we are on the job, let us thank our dear Heavenly Father that he has left us live to see our mistakes and transgression and let us renew our steps aright. Let us remember in time of grace and life, his will concerning us. We all need more humility like unto Christ's and the apostles' for if we raise ourselves up we are sure to fall, fall deep into the mire every time, though this world is polished very fine. Let us remember Luke 15:11-16. How many people of today are not satisfied with their surroundings, and are asking for more wages, for less work, more vacations, more amusements, more music of all kinds, then forget many songs which inspire unto edification in the labor of God's kingdom, more dress to suit ourselves into our present day, and more other things of which we are reminded through the Bible Monitor? Then we read that the son spent all in riotous living and fallen in deep distress he finds himself in a bad shape with starvation and dire need of clothing and in thought he comes to himself. He decides "I will arise and go to my Father and will say unto my Father I am not worthy to be called thy son"; here comes the only hope of relief, unto his Father, no more, "give me" but now it is "make me" one of thy hired servants. Through Jesus Christ our Lord thousands, yes, tens and hundreds of thousands, would be the praise of God our great high priest. If we would believe and say the "Old Time Religion is good enough for me" and live it, and the apostles' doctrine would shine through us in this sin cursed and wicked world; then would we prepare ourselves for the Lord's second coming to be received with his beloved chosen when he comes, "Remember Lot's wife". Another striking thought found in Luke 16:25-26. "Son, remember," and so forth. Let us remember that though much persecution we must enter into eternal life as a verse "Our trouble and our trials here will only make us richer there. When we arrive at home."

Let us arise and return to our first love. In the name of Jesus Christ I believe blessed and holy is the return unto the Father of love. We need the guidance of the holy spirit to direct us in all

truths, and in that fellowship. I wish God's early speed of his church. In as much as we learn that the body of believers in which we now live has started humbly and earnestly, eagerly to help one another with Godly fear and honesty, and has multiplied to a large number and has spread unto the far west even from shore to shore and some have again crossed the briny deep, into the dark and heathen lands. We would wish them all well, that do well. Let us consider that the first colleges were the first delight and prospered fast in the west, and with them many doubtful doctrines have come which are so misleading unto the child of Grace. Yet, I believe there is hope, since our dear brethren in the west have seen the great evil. The faithful would say "Let us arise and go to my Father." Oh for a closer walk with God. A pure and heavenly frame, a light to shine upon the road, that leads me to the Lamb. (I Cor. 1:10) "Now I beseech you, brethren, by the name of our Lord Jesus Christ, that ye all speak the same thing, and that there be no divisions among you; but that ye be perfectly joined together in the same mind, and in the same judgment."

Read II Cor. 4, especially 3-4. How does this suit our day? "But if our gospel be hid, it is hid to them that are lost: In whom the god of this world hath blinded the minds of them which believed not, lest the light of the glorious gospel of Christ who is the image of God, should shine unto them." As to the fear let us take notice how fear fell upon every soul and from time to time how holy men of God had this same fear in II Cor. 7:1. "Having these promises dearly beloved, let us cleanse ourselves from all filthiness of the flesh and the spirit, perfecting holiness in the fear of God." How often do we find Godly fear in all honesty and in sincerity and in truth uprightly before God and man in similar readings of the Bible?

Awaiting for further thought on the breaking of bread by the apostles for edification and for doctrine with these scattered remarks, and a few references of prayer in Acts 10:1-2 and Acts 13:2-3. Thinking this may suffice, hoping you the rich and early blessings in Christ.

## NEWS ITEM

### GOSHEN, INDIANA

The Lord willing, the Goshen Congregation will have their Harvest Meeting services, September 14. Bro. Dennis St. John will be the speaker. All are welcome to attend and worship the Lord with us.

Sister Sharon Swihart, Cor.

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

He Came To Save Sinners

J. H. Moore

The whole purpose of Jesus' mission may be summed up in this one statement: "For the Son of man is come to seek and to save that which was lost." Luke 19:10. Then it is said in John 3:16 that "God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." John the Baptist recognized this fact most clearly when he once said, pointing to Jesus: "Behold the Lamb of God, which taketh away the sin of the world." John 1:29. Jesus found man in the lowest depths of sin, and came to earth, and endured all the hardships and privations that were meted out to him, in order that he might save the sinner from his sins, as well as to protect him from sinning. Nothing but love of the highest type prompted him to carry out the mission of salvation entrusted to him. His mission was to serve and to save, and the plan he followed in the scheme of human redemption, as we are here setting forth, step by step, shows clearly how the system was outlined in the mind of the Father, as well as in the mind of the Son.



### A RECIPE FOR REVIVAL

If all SLEEPING folks would WAKE UP  
And all LUKEWARM would FIRE UP  
And all the DISGRUNTLED would SWEETEN UP  
And all the DISCOURAGED would CHEER UP  
And all the DISTRESSED would LOOK UP  
And all the ESTRANGED would MAKE UP  
And all the GOSSIPERS would SHUT UP  
Then there might come a revival.

### THREE BLESSINGS FOUND IN JESUS CHRIST

Forgiveness of sins: that through his name whosoever believeth in him shall receive remission of sins. Acts 10:43

Peace with God: Therefore being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ. Romans 5:1

Total Renewal: Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature. Old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new. II Corinthians 5:17.

## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR SEPTEMBER 1986**

- September 7 - A Better Testament - Hebrews 7:18-28.  
September 14 - A Better Covenant - Hebrews 8:1-13.  
September 21 - Eternal Redemption - Hebrews 9:1-12.  
September 28 - The One Perfect Sacrifice - Hebrews 9:13-28.

## **YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR SEPTEMBER 1986**

- September 7 - Witnessing - Isaiah 62:6, Mark 5:18-20, II Timothy 1:8-13, I Peter 3:10-16.  
September 14 - Our Speech - Proverbs 17:27-28, Matthew 5:33-37, Colossians 4:6, Titus 2:7-8.  
September 21 - Doubts - Matthew 14:23-36, John 20:24-31, Acts 12:11-16.  
September 28 - Courage - II Cor. 16:13-14, Philippians 4:11-14, I Timothy 4:12, II Timothy 2:1-15.

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

SEPTEMBER 1, 1986

No. 17

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## ONCE TO EVERY MAN AND NATION

Once to ev'ry man and nation Comes the moment to decide,  
In the strife of truth with falsehood, For the good or evil side;  
Some great cause, God's new Messiah, Off'rинг each the bloom or blight,  
And choice goes by forever 'Twixt that darkness and that light.

Then to side with truth is noble, When we share her wretched crust,  
Ere her cause bring fame and profit, And 'tis prosp'rous to be just:  
Then it is the brave man chooses While the coward stands aside,  
Till the multitude make virtue Of the faith they had denied.

By the light or burning martyrs, Christ, Thy bleeding feet we track,  
Toiling up new Calvaries ever With the cross that turns not back;  
New occasions teach new duties, Time makes ancient good uncouth;  
They must upward still and onward, Who would keep abreast of truth.

Tho' the cause of evil prosper, Yet 'tis truth alone is strong:  
Tho' her portion be the scaffold, And upon the throne be wrong;  
Yet that scaffold sways the future, And, behind the dim unknown,  
Standeth God within the shadow Keeping watch above His own.

— James Russell Lowell

## ENCOURAGEMENT

We face many discouragements during our lives, whether physical, financial, family, employment or Spiritual. We may be discouraged individually or as a group. Individual discouragement may soon spread to others, so a whole group may soon be affected.

Discouragements are not unique to our present age. Some are recorded in the Bible. Moses was discouraged in Egypt when he found his own people fighting one another. He suffered many discouragements during the forty years of desert wandering. David was discouraged by the jealousies and fightings of his children. His generals often disobeyed his orders to be merciful, bringing sorrow and discouragement to him.

Undoubtedly there were many times when Jesus was discouraged. He was opposed by the religious leaders. He was misunderstood by His listeners. He was betrayed by one of his disciples. He was crucified by the civil government. He was deserted by His closest followers. He would have been discouraged if He had not known that all this was to fulfill His mission on earth.

Peter, Paul, John and the other leaders in the early Church faced many discouragements from persecutions, false Brethren, Jewish opposition, ungodly members and apostacy. Whole congregations were snatched away by false teachers. Yet they continued to serve Christ by preaching, praying and promoting the strait and narrow way.

Gideon faced many discouragements. He had to hide when threshing grain for the Midianites would have taken it from him. Later when called to lead his people against the Midianites he was

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

SEPTEMBER 1, 1986

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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unable to see how his small band could accomplish such a great task. It was only after eavesdropping on the defeated talk of his enemies that he realized that they were even more demoralized than he was. Today, when conservative Christians are so few, it is easy to be discouraged before such an array of enemies. But like Gideon, we should realize that for all their hard speeches and brave attitudes they are as demoralized as the Midianites.

Elijah had some great victories over the enemies of God. He also had some deeply discouraging times. When queen Jezebel threatened him, he quickly lost his courage and fled, although he had lately overcome the prophets of Baal. With his courage gone he began to feel sorry for himself. He began to think that he was the only true servant that God had left on earth. Persecution may cause us to lose our courage, although in our situation we know very little of real persecution. More often we become discouraged by feeling sorry for ourselves and feeling a certain Spiritual superiority over others. When we feel alone we become discouraged and by our discouragement we drive others from us, whom we should be drawing toward God.

The Apostle Paul was discouraged by his seeming inability to do those things he should and to not do those things he shouldn't. This same inability may be very discouraging to us. A conscientious Christian will be bothered by his failures to live as he should. While we dare never take lightly any sin or misconduct in our Christian life, we also have to realize our imperfections. We must take care of what is in the past and press on. Satan will use the past to discourage and defeat us in the present and keep us from going forward.

Despite all the discouragements faced by those memorialized in God's Word, we know that Christianity has survived to our own time. There must have been some encouragements along the way. Christians have survived their discouragements and have carried forward the Gospel.

We face, today, the same discouragements that Godly men have faced since the Creation. Our fears are the same that have hampered our Spiritual foreparents. As they pressed onward so must we.

We must realize that, when we accept the fact that we are weak, we have the greatest power available. When we are broken, God has the opportunity to strengthen and encourage us. We must realize that our Christian life is not a solitary struggle. We are making the journey in company with our Christian Brothers and Sisters. As fellow travelers we need to encourage one another.

Encouragement may be a simple thing. A handshake, a salutation, a pat on the back, a touch or just being present may be all

that is needed to encourage another to continue on. A group may be encouraged by the conversion of one from the world or the steady growth of another.

Although there are many discouragements along the way, it is encouraging to know that they are common to all of us. Being common to us all, they can become goads to each to be more active in encouraging others. May we each grow to overcome discouragement and to bring encouragement to others.

## BELIEVE IT OR NOT

Most of us are familiar with Ripley's "Believe It Or Not." Some things in this life are, in a sense, unbelievable, yet they happen. Usually there is some sort of evidence to prove the claim which is made, or to show that it's not just hearsay. Events which are unusual or seemingly impossible can and do happen in this world that we live in. Someone is sure to notice these events and to report them in the news. In the Bible, we have recorded some special "Believe It Or Not" events, done God's way. I'm sure they, too, made the news at one time. Let's think about a few of them.

One of the first which comes to mind is Noah and the Ark. Noah spent many years building the Ark. It would have been more than a lifetime according to the present average life span. Most of us would probably have gotten discouraged and quit, but not Noah. He not only completed his task but also warned those around him of the coming flood. Then he stocked the Ark with food as instructed in Gen. 6:21-22. Can you imagine the comments people made? Next, the animals came in. I don't believe Noah had to chase them to capture the ones he wanted, but they must have come willingly. Wild animals not used to confinement, as well as tame ones, entered in. Think of the chaos there would be if anyone tried that now! It is hard to picture the flood which followed, but it did happen, and God expects us to accept it by faith. See Gen. 6-8.

Another event recorded by God which man tries to explain away is the crossing of the Red Sea. See Gen. 14:21-31. There have been estimates made of the possible height of the walls of water, the time needed for so many to cross, and so forth. But no matter how long it took, the water divided and they did cross - on dry land at that! Now whoever heard of a dry area under a sea or lake? No one, of course, but God made it dry for His people. This was only one of the many supernatural events which the children of Israel experienced, but whatever the need of that multitude, God was able to provide.

Elijah benefited also from God's provision. God sent him into hiding and said, "Thou shalt drink of the brook; and I have com-

manded the ravens to feed thee there." I Kings 17:4. Elijah needed protection and food, and both were provided. To have a bird come to you to receive food is natural. To have a bird bring food to you is not, but it did happen and we can't explain it away as mere coincidence.

Even the sun went against the natural laws for an ordinary day. Not once, but twice, the sun's pattern was interrupted. In Joshua 10:13, God's people were in a battle and Joshua commanded the sun and moon to stand still until the battle was won. It would really be something for the sun to delay going down for even an hour or two, but this was nearly a whole day. In II Kings 20:8-11, Hezekiah was given a choice, and he asked for the sun to move backwards ten degrees. God can reverse the laws of nature if He so desires, and we need to believe it.

"Now the Lord had prepared a great fish to swallow Jonah. And Jonah was in the belly of the fish three days and three nights." Jonah 1:17. There have been statements made that no sea creature had a throat large enough to swallow a man, but I'm sure that was the least of Jonah's worries. He was in the fish, however he got there, and getting out was his concern. He no doubt expected to die. That was probably the longest private prayer meeting he'd ever had! After his attitude changed, his circumstances did too, and he found himself again on dry land. Why didn't Jonah die? Because God was in control of this situation, and He had other plans for Jonah.

There is something in all these instances which defies the laws of nature. You can either believe them or not, but your opinion won't change the facts. There is another event which is more important to you than any of the ones already mentioned, and that is the birth of Christ. He left Heaven and was born of a virgin so He could become your Savior and mine. People try to explain this away also and say Jesus was born just like the rest of us, that He was a mere human being, not the divine Son of God.

What you choose to believe about Jesus is up to you, but you can't change the facts. Refusal to believe in Christ means condemnation, but faith in Him and His power to save brings us salvation. Read John 3:16-18. "He that believeth on the Son hath everlasting life: and he that believeth not the Son shall not see life; but the wrath of God abideth on him." John 3:36. The fact is, Jesus saves and unbelief condemns us, whether we believe it or not.

"With God all things are possible." including animals going willingly into the Ark. It is possible for waters to part and birds to feed a lonely man. It's possible for the sun to defy the natural laws, and for Jonah to survive in a fish. It was possible for Jesus to take on

human form, to die for us and then be resurrected so we might live also. Do you believe it, or not?

Sister Eileen Broadwater  
R. 1, Pioneer, OH 43554

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The kind of person God wants me to be . . . GENTLE

There are times in the Scriptures when gentleness and meekness are used interchangeably. We tend to picture a meek person as a pushover, a "Casper Milquetoast" with no substance. Many feel this quality is to be found more in women than in men. What a terrible distortion of truth. These mistaken assumptions are partially due to a lack of understanding of the word from the biblical perspective.

A meek person is, in fact, one who has great power. This is power, which is under control. Behind gentleness is a strength of steel and a person with a right perspective of the emotion.

Jesus has promised us that the meek will inherit the earth. A meek person, one in control of himself and the situation around him, does not grope nervously at life. The Spirit of God has free reign and he has confidence that God will give him the best . . . in fact, the whole earth. As a result, he can well afford to yield to others and trust God.

A meek person has learned how to yield up his rights and possessions to God and knows how to respond to anger when his personal rights have been violated. This person wins the right to be heard rather than demanding the right. Look at Moses, a volatile man, who had the status as the meekest person that ever lived. (Num. 12:3)

Jesus, who braved an angry mob of Jews and Roman soldiers told us . . . "for I am gentle and lowly in heart. . ." Obviously, meekness is not weakness. A meek person has greater strength any time than one who is coarse, abrasive and full of anger.

Again Jesus was the epitome of honesty. He spoke the truth at all costs, even when it meant personal loss. When it meant a tender response to a frightened woman, He was ready. He took a blind man away from a crowd, not wanting to embarrass him. Each situation demanded its own response. He was prepared to act and react to any situation with total self (God) control.

Moses, the meek man, responded so furiously at the complaints of the Israelite people, that it cost him entry into the promised land. God places a premium on gentleness. Paul instructed Timothy to rebuke and correct with gentleness. The Galatians, when restoring a brother who was overtaken in sin, were to send spiritual people who could undertake that task with gentleness.

The tender man, David, had deep emotions. He directed his officers to deal gently with his rebellious son, Absalom, when he was opposing him and his kingdom. Jesus blesses this kind of sensitivity.

Young men in the church today need role-models of men who are "strong as steel and soft as satin." Will you accept the challenge to be that man? Will you show wisdom from above which is first pure, then peaceable, GENTLE . . . ? We are living in the end times and Paul told Timothy that in these days, we can expect people to be abusive and reckless. We have to resist this tendency of our age and the chance of becoming as hard and insensitive as the machines which dominate our lives. Have you noticed that people who tend to worship technology become sort of machine-like?

They are brittle, calculating and soul-less. People who worship Jesus become sensitive, compassionate, and gentle. YOU BECOME LIKE WHAT YOU WORSHIP. Even the modern educational system has de-activated the part of man that develops into gentleness.

We must be broken-down and remade as we become more Christ-like. We must become supple in the hands of the Lord and be gentle in our relationships with others. Be GENTLE . . . God will bless you for it.

Brother Len Wertz



## PREACHER'S COMPLAINT BOOK

One time there was a preacher who had an unusual number of complainers in the church for which he preached. Every time someone would call him to gripe about another brother in the congregation, the preacher would say, "Wait till I get my complaint book. I want to make a notation of your complaint about your brother and then you can sign your name by the complaint." When the critics learned that the preacher was keeping records of all complaints made by the members, they usually changed the subject. Wouldn't it be wonderful if all preachers kept such a record and let the members know of it?

- Selected by Brother Lynn H. Miller

## THOUGHTS

Thoughts are good - or they are bad -  
They are glad - or they are sad -  
They are wrong - or they are right -  
Either evil - or of "light."

Thoughts from below - or above -  
Can be hate - or they are love -  
A middle ground - I don't find -  
On a fence - or in the mind.

There can be joy - or there's woe -  
If we're not - ready to go  
With our Saviour - when He comes -  
And takes His Saints - to their homes.

Let your thoughts - be pure and clean -  
And no malice - make you mean -  
God can cleanse - your heart right now -  
If you'll to Him - humble bow

For He loves - each humble soul -  
And He wants - to make them whole -  
Leading them - in words and deeds -  
Filling all - their daily needs.

Keep your thoughts - on God above -  
And on His - undying love -  
Living for Him - every day -  
Walking on - the narrow way.

He will guide - your wand'r'ing mind -  
The more you read - this you'll find -  
His Word is - the way of life -  
It was brought - from God by Christ.

Sister Irene Stout  
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## SIXTY YEARS AGO

September 1, 1926

### CONCEIT, DECEIT AND RECEIPT

J. F. Britton

The three words that form the heading of this article are stupendous factors that function both in our moral and our spiritual lives. Conceit and deceit are dynamic and carnal propensities that dominate in the lives of their victims, so that they are led on and on into the realms of destruction. "Receipt" is a profound question that has under consideration the welfare of the soul.

In order that we may grasp mentally the gravity and magnitude of the signification of those three words, it will be necessary to consider them somewhat separately. As we see Conceit arrayed in the church of today, we are forced to the conclusion that Conceit is the mother of pride, arrogance and obduracy. A great man once said, "Sow a thought, and you will reap a habit; sow a habit, and you will reap a character; sow a character, and you will reap a destiny." Oh! the eternal horrors that hang and cluster around the second death, the sowing of the flesh. "Then when lust hath conceived, it bringeth forth sin; and sin, when it is finished, bringeth forth death." (James 1:15) Hence, the sad fact that follows: that death is the finished product and the end of Conceit. Solomon, David, Paul, Peter and James, all recognized and spoke of the awfulness of conceit in human hearts and lives. And as it has always been true, as it is true today, that a conceited man or woman is a serious proposition, we are grappling with grave and perplexing questions and problems.

But the most serious challenge confronting the church today is Conceit and Deceit, those arrogant and hypocritical elements dominating and functioning in the church, that have incapacitated her in her disciplinary virtues. Hence the church finds herself involved in an awful peril, just as it has been prophesied in the New Testament. "But chiefly them that walk after the flesh in the lust of uncleanness, and despise government, presumptuous are they, self-willed, they are not afraid to speak evil of dignities." (II Peter 2:10) "For there are certain men crept in unawares, who were before of old ordained to this condemnation, ungodly men, turning the grace of our God into lasciviousness, and denying the only Lord God, and our Lord Jesus Christ. I will therefore put you in remembrance, though ye once knew this, how that the Lord, having saved the people out of the land of Egypt, afterwards destroyed them that believed not. Likewise also these filthy dreamers defile the flesh, despise dominion, and speak evil of dignities." (Jude 4, 5 and 8. The reader should read verses 6 and 7.)

We shall now try to look very briefly at the signification of the second word of this article. Jehovah, speaking through the prophet Jeremiah says, "The heart is deceitful above all things, and desperately wicked; who can know it?" (Jer. 17:9) From this divine description and the divulging of the character of the human heart, no wonder Jesus said, "Those things which proceed out of the mouth come from the heart; and they defile the man. For out of the heart proceed evil thoughts, murders, adulteries, fornications, thefts, false witness, blasphemies. These are the things which defile a man." (Matt. 15:18-20.) These carnalities and propensities left without any restrictions or restraint, will jeopardize

either state or church. "And God saw that the wickedness of man was great in the earth, and that every imagination of the thoughts of his heart was only evil continually." (Gen. 6:5) Hence it is absolutely essential for the moral and spiritual welfare of man, that the disciplinary reins of restrictions should be thrown around him.

But Deceit is so deceptive and perfidious, it's like a pest-house, full of the fascinating virus that is so contagious that only through vigilance and prohibitory measures can those carnalities and propensities be suppressed or controlled. It is remarkable to hear many of our brethren speak in very strong terms against the boot-leggers of our country, and demand that they be prosecuted to the extent of the law. But raise a question in reference to the order of the church and her government, and it is wonderful to hear those same brethren cry man-made law. Who made the Prohibition law? The people of this country, and it is also true that the Volstead Act and the Eighteenth Amendment were legislated into our government by men. Why then should our civil laws be observed and our church laws disregarded? And too, when our church ritual is of divine authority. "For he taught them as one having authority, and not as the scribes." (Matt. 7:29)

But as man and woman were first blinded, decoyed and beguiled by that wizard Deceit, so the old arch-fiend is still speaking to his satanic emissaries or agents, enticing them. And thousands of church members are being caressed and lulled to sleep in the lap of Delilah, only to awaken to the sad realization of virtue and spiritual power gone, like Samson of old, who fell a victim to the Philistines through the deceitfulness of a sinful woman. Thus he lost his strength, his eyes, and his life. Oh! how true, but very sad that, "there is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." (Pro. 14:12) Thus the church has been plunged upon a stormy sea, and is in the midst of great peril. And the momentous question is heard everywhere: "Lord, what shall we do?" Jesus answered the question by saying, "Therefore whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock: And the rain descended and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house: and it fell not: for it was founded upon a rock. And everyone that heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them not, shall be likened unto a foolish man, which built his house upon the sand: And the rain descended, and the floods came, and the winds blew, and beat upon that house: and it fell: and great was the fall of it." (Matt. 7:24-27) In view of those profound and stupendous statements from Jesus, He that never spake as man speaks, "and in whom there is no variableness, neither shadow of turning," the burning question is: Upon which of those two foundations are we building our hopes

for eternity? Are we building upon the sands of Conceit and Deceit, the "teachings and commandments of men", or are we building on the eternal Rock of Ages, Christ Jesus the Son of God?

This leads to the third division of this article. "Receipt" signifies that there has been something received. Paul said unto them, "Have ye received the Holy Spirit since ye believed? And they said unto him, "We have not so much as heard whether there be any Holy Ghost." (Acts 19:2) Appalling indeed, to think there were a lot of folks that had believed, been baptized and received into the church and knew nothing about the Holy Ghost! The very circumstances, the nature and character of the case, show that there was something radically and lamentably wrong here. It is very apparent and goes without saying, that then, as today, there was someone who was not preaching a whole Christ and a full Gospel. Reader, can you conceive of any proximate idea of what it means to have twelve men in the church without the Holy Ghost? But thank God, and bless His Holy Name, those twelve men were converted and baptized into Jesus Christ, and received the Holy Ghost. But from the general trend, and the conditions in the church today, we are made to ask the question, "Have you, have I, received the Holy Ghost since we joined the church?" Paul says, "Therefore, if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away: behold, all things are become new." (II Cor. 5:17) Because he has been born through the operation of the Holy Ghost into the Kingdom of God. Hence, his "life is hid with Christ in God," (Col. 3:3), and as he has changed his relations from the world to the heavenly kingdom, his "delight is in the law of the Lord." And like Paul, he says, "God forbid that I should glory save in the cross of our Lord Jesus Christ, by whom the world is crucified unto me, and I unto the world." (Gal. 6:14) And like David, he prays, "Lord, keep back thy servant also from presumptuous sins; let them not have dominion over me: then shall I be upright, and I shall be innocent from the great transgression. Let the words of my mouth, and the meditation of my heart be acceptable in thy sight, O Lord, my strength, and my redeemer."

## IN TIMES OF DISTRESS AND DISCOURAGEMENT

II Corinthians 1:3-4, "Blessed be God, even the Father of our Lord Jesus Christ, the Father of mercies, and the God of all comfort; Who comforteth us in all our tribulation, that we may be able to comfort them which are in any trouble, by the comfort wherewith we ourselves are comforted of God."

In many church circles today the emphasis is on loud music, shouting, and "praising the Lord." It is not our purpose to question the salvation or sincerity of these individuals. But we cannot agree

with their hypothesis that only those outside of the will of God suffer sadness and seeming defeats. In fact this first chapter of II Corinthians tells us that God can get glory from our suffering. It is only when we go through the valley of despair that we can truly empathize with those who are hurting. For in verse 6 of this chapter we read, "And whether we be afflicted, it is for our consolation and salvation, which is effectual in the enduring of the same sufferings which we also suffer; or whether we be comforted, it is for your consolation and salvation."

Brothers and Sisters, are we REALLY concerned about those who are suffering? There are those outside of the Church who have turned to dope and alcohol to help to lessen the sting of defeat and sorrow. But there is no real comfort in these things. Are we reaching out to these individuals with the message of hope through our blessed Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ? Or are we too busy fighting one another over the "purity of the Church?" We would not be misunderstood. There is a real need for pure Church doctrine in this time of "popular christianity." But Paul tells us that we suffer afflictions in order that some may be saved. We wonder sometimes if instead of praying for health and strength we should not pray that God would give us what He sees as our needs. It is not pleasant to suffer sickness or other types of sorrow or discouragement. It is not natural to desire to do so, and we are not at all suggesting that we should not seek medical help if we are ill. We also have the promise in James 5 that God will raise us up by divine power. But, contrary to popular teaching, this healing is not always immediate or even physical healing. Yes, God CAN get glory out of suffering.

Suffering is a real part of our Christian fellowship. As the hymn writer John Fawcett wrote in that stirring song, "Blest Be the Tie."

"We share our mutual woes,  
Our mutual burdens bear;  
And often for each other flows  
The sympathizing tear."

But I am afraid that we express this sentiment much more often than we practice it! We are often so busy tearing each other up with words that we have little time for compassion. Do we feel, "Yes, well, he or she probably deserves exactly what they are getting," instead of trying to put ourselves in their place? Have we become so "spiritual" that we can no longer grieve with those suffering the loss of a loved one? Yes, death is a happy occasion for those who know and love the Lord. But there is also often a deep sense of loss. If there is true love between a husband and wife, a child and Mother or Father, or a brother or sister (natural or in the Lord), there will be pain caused by the separation by death.

There are those in the fellowship of believers who are suffering from broken marriages and others who are having marital problems. Let me say at this point that God is not in the business of breaking up homes. We believe that this is Satan's greatest attack on the Church today. If he can destroy the home he will "destroy" the peace, love, and joy of the Church. We are aware that Christ taught that the gates of hell shall not prevail against the true Church (Matthew 16:18) but we also read that Satan is a roaring lion seeking whom he may devour (I Peter 5:8). But, on the other hand, our stand for Christ may cause problems with those we love. It is a hard saying, but Christ told us in Luke 14:26 "If any man come to me, and hate not (love less than Christ) his father, and mother, and wife, and children, and brethren, and sisters, yes, and his own life also, he cannot be my disciple." But we must be wary that we do not become so sanctimonious that we lose a feeling of love and compassion for those who suffer family problems. While we are on the subject of family problems, one of the greatest sufferings a Christian goes through is to see their children stray from or refuse to accept the faith handed down to them. Here again, if you have never had children of your own or if you were blessed with children who are faithful in the Church you may become pharisaic in your attitude toward those less fortunate. We do not believe we should fault ourselves if our children refuse the faith after we have faithfully taught them. Wayward children, though certainly not a blessing, can give us compassion for others in a like position.

We feel strongly that we need a more loving, compassionate Church. We rejoice in the examples of helping hands and hearts that we have observed. But we see much more finding fault than loving care. We confess that without caring Christian brothers and sisters we would have probably fallen from the faith. Perhaps this is why this message is so dear to our heart. We need not compromise Bible truths in order to be loving and kind. In fact if we truly love we will speak the truth in love with tears. (II Cor. 2:4)

If you accept the Lord Jesus Christ as your Savior we cannot promise you a "bed of roses." But we can promise you that He will never leave you or forsake you and will go with you in all times of trouble. He will give you a home in Heaven where sorrow, disappointments and distress will be no more. This is the hope of all Christians.

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINE

### Love and Obedience

J. H. Moore

Love and obedience are two great cardinal points in the plan of salvation. Jesus says, "If a man love me, he will keep my words." (John 14:23) Nothing can be plainer. The real test of love is obedience. This will be found true in every department of life. The child who loves her mother will obey her. But hear the Master further: "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me." (John 14:21) Then, who is it that loves Jesus? There can be but one answer: "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them."

Every man who has the New Testament has the commandments of Christ, and if he deliberately refuses to obey them from the heart, it cannot be truthfully said that he loves his Lord. In the light of what we here say, it must be evident to every reader that love and obedience go hand in hand. Where love for the Master exists, there will obedience be found. The absence of obedience indicates the absence of love. This is the plain declaration of the Master himself. Hear him again: "He that loveth me not keepeth not my sayings." (John 14:24) We also have this further statement: "For this is the love of God, that we keep his commandments." (I John 5:3) Love and obedience are found in the same heart. True obedience cannot be separated from love. In fact, true love invariably prompts obedience.



### BURSTING PIPES

Many of us in the Northern regions know that the cold weather brings the threat of freezing water supplies. Some folks will turn their water spigots open slightly to keep the water flowing because moving water will not freeze as quickly as non-moving water. If the water is not allowed to flow, the cold will freeze the water and the ice will burst the pipes, rendering them useless as channels to provide that water. There IS a spiritual parallel. If the spiritual flow is shut off, then we are in danger of freezing up and losing our effectiveness as channels of the water of life. Let's keep ourselves open to that life-giving flow so that we do not become frozen, bursted, and useless.

- Selected by Brother Lynn H. Miller

## NEW ITEMS

### HART, MICHIGAN

Revival meetings will be held at Hart, Michigan, September 7 through 14 with Bro. Fred Pifer being the evangelist. Communion services will also be held Saturday, September 13. All are invited to attend these meetings.

Sister Beverly St. John, Cor.

### WALNUT GROVE, MARYLAND

The Walnut Grove Congregation has scheduled a Revival effort commencing September 28. The Lord willing, Elder Dean St. John from Montpelier, Ohio will be the Evangelist. These meetings terminate with our Lovefeast on October 5.

We invite you to be present and enjoy these services with us. Pray that God will make His wonderful promises the daily experience of everyone who completely yields himself to Him and His Words.

Sister Betty Shelly, Cor.

### QUINTER, KANSAS

The Quinter Congregation will be holding a week of revival meetings, September 21 through 28, with Bro. Rudy Cover, Modesto, California, as the evangelist. Our prayer for these meetings is that God's Holy Spirit will create a true revival in every heart. We invite you to come and worship Him with us.

Sister Julie Litfin



### THREEFOLD MANNER OF LIFE

AS TO GOD: Bless the Lord, O my soul, and forget not all his benefits. Psalms 103:2.

AS TO THE WORLD: For every creature of God is good, and nothing to be refused, if it be received with thanksgiving. I Timothy 4:4.

AS TO SELF: For who maketh thee to differ from another? and what hast thou that thou didst not receive? now if thou didst receive it, why dost thou glory? I Corinthians 4:7.

These are the questions that should have accompanied the September Sunday School lessons in the August 15 issue. They did not appear through no fault of the Bible Study Board.

The Editor

## **ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR SEPTEMBER 1986**

September 7 - A Better Testament - Hebrews 7:18-28.

1. In what way was the Priesthood of Christ different from the ceremonial law?
2. Need there be another sacrifice?

September 14 - A Better Covenant - Hebrews 8:1-13.

1. Could Christ have been an earthly Priest under the Law?
2. How and in what way is the New Covenant better?

September 21 - Eternal Redemption - Hebrews 9:1-12.

1. Who and how often was permitted to enter the Holy Place?
2. Who was permitted to enter the Most Holy or the Holy of Holiest?

September 28 - The One Perfect Sacrifice - Hebrews 9:13-28.

1. What was required that the High Priest take into the Holy Place?
2. What offering did Christ carry into the Most Holy Place?  
Verse 24.

## **YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR SEPTEMBER 1986**

September 7 - Witnessing - Isa. 62:6, Mark 5:18-20, II Tim. 1:8-13,  
I Pet. 3:10-16.

1. Who is to witness for Christ? Matt. 28:7-8.
2. To whom was His Disciples to witness? Matt. 28:19-20.

September 14 - Our Speech - Pro. 17:27-28, Matt. 5:33-37, Col. 4:6,  
Titus 2:7-8.

1. What does James 3 tell us about how our speech should be?
2. How did Jesus answer those who accused Him?

September 21 - Doubts - Matt. 14:33-36, John 20:24-31, Acts 12:  
11-16.

1. When Peter walked on the sea to Christ what caused him to sink? Matt. 14:31.
2. Why is Thomas called the doubting Thomas? John 20:25.

September 28 - Courage - II Cor. 16:13-14, Phil. 4:11-14, I Tim.  
4:12, II Tim. 2:1-15.

1. What story in the Old Testament reveals courage? Esther  
4:16.
2. The courage of Christ. Phil. 2:5-11.

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

SEPTEMBER 15, 1986

NO. 18

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## O FOR A HEART TO LOVE MY GOD

O for a heart to love my God!

A heart from sin set free;

A heart that always feels the blood,

So freely shed for me.

A heart resigned, submissive, meek,

My dear Redeemer's throne,

Where only Christ is heard to speak,

Where Jesus reigns alone.

A humble, lowly, contrite heart,

Believing, true and clean,

Which neither life nor death can part

From him that dwells within.

A heart in ev'ry thought renewed,

And filled with love divine;

Perfect, and right, and pure, and good,

A copy, Lord, of thine.

Thy holy nature, Lord, impart;

Come quickly from above,

Write thy new name upon my heart,

Thy new, best name of Love.

- Charles Wesley

## LIFESTYLES

Today, people are doing their "own thing". Each lives according to his own understanding and desire. So there is no uniformity. No one wants to be told by someone else that his way is wrong and that he must conform to a uniform system.

This lack of conformity affects the government, the schools and places of employment. It has had an effect upon the churches. With everyone going their own way it is difficult for the church to operate as a brotherhood. The emphasis is upon the individual and his wants, feelings and accomplishments. There is little concern about the good of the whole body. Because none want to submit to the rule and regulations of the body, they carry out their self desire and have little fear of further consequences.

We have a world that has no standard except what each individual develops for himself. Success is said to be the fulfillment of self-set goals. Success is not measured by living up to the set standard. The world around us has largely ignored and even despised the holy standard set by God in His Word.

Having gotten further and further from the standard of God, people of this world have gotten into various lifestyles. The style of their living is marked by a departure from the Bible's standard of righteous living.

The lifestyles of some are so extreme, they are even opposed to the lenient standards of society. Though outside the mainstream of average behaviour, these lifestyles are not only tolerated but are heroic in the eyes of some. Much of modern American living today is based on the senses. It is doing what feels good no matter how

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

SEPTEMBER 15, 1986

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

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extreme or outrageous it may be. There are those today who openly live deviant lifestyles. Homosexuality has become a lifestyle of many. It is not only a rebellion against the lenient mores of society but also against the strict standards of the Bible.

Those who are heterosexual, living together without being married has become their rebellion. They want to indulge their feelings and physical forces, without making the commitments of fidelity and lifelong love. They want the freedom to move from relationship to relationship, when problems crop up and they do not want to face hard choices in their own lives. It is easier to change partners than one's habits and attitudes. The consequences of this lifestyle are many. There may be physical consequences from certain diseases and there certainly will be psychological problems that may be masked over but are still there. The standard of the Bible cannot be violated with impunity without a price being exacted at some future time whether in this life or in eternity or even both.

Fashions, whether high fashion or hippy, influence the dress of many. The clothes made by manufacturers and sold by the stores reflect the lifestyles of those who violate the standards of right living. The fashions are changeable depending on the current fad. People dress not to be modest, comfortable or warm but to be in style no matter how immodest, uncomfortable or ridiculous. Even the lenient social standards concerning modesty of few years ago are now outdated and ignored. To be seen in public with little or nothing on is a symptom of the individual's primary interest in himself and his own feelings. He is doing what he wants to do and so much the better, if he can garner public attention doing it.

These lifestyles are but a few of the ways that our society is affected by those who disobey every rule, regulation or standard that does not meet their individual approval. This is not a new condition although it may seem more widespread and bolder than in past generations. It has been the way of the world since Adam and Eve's fall in the Garden of Eden.

The way of the world we expect to find in the world but we do not want to find it in the Church, yet these various lifestyles around us also have had an effect upon the Church. Church members, perhaps in less obvious ways, show rebellion. There is a greater emphasis on what the individual's desire is rather than on the standard set by God. There is an effect upon the dress of the members as they become less modest. The discipline of the Church is impaired by the seeking for compromise and good feeling rather than meeting the Biblical standard. At first, this rebellion is hardly noticeable but later it very quickly gains ascendancy.

What is your lifestyle? Surely it is not one of the deviant lifestyles so prevalent in today's world. But is it as closely identified with God's standard as possible?

## RELEASE THE BRAKE !

In recent months, we toured an old, water-powered saw-and-grist mill. It is situated along a river where there's a good source of power. There was grinding equipment, the saw, and also some generating equipment. All received their power from the same source — the flowing water — but not all the equipment could operate at the same time. Pulleys were braked and belts changed to divert the power where needed. Of special interest to us was the sawing demonstration.

The young assistant changed belts, opened the water-flow control, and so forth to direct the full power to the big saw. At one point, the man in charge asked, "Did you release the brake?" It was obvious that he had not, for when he did, the whine of the saw rose to a shrill scream. It was now ready for action! When the log touched the blade, the whine reached a deafening pitch. Slowly but steadily, the log was squared off, boards sawed and laid aside, all in a few minutes. When the brake was released, the power flowed, and the saw could then do its job.

Christians need power also so they can function as God intended them to. God is our source of power, and His power flows freely if we let it. Any resistance in our hearts to God's will for us hinders the flow of power. Keeping the brake on, spiritually speaking, renders us powerless and makes our lives "ho-hum". It cuts us off from the strength we need to serve God, and lowers our spiritual vitality. We may be gently humming along as the saw was, but we are not ready for action and there's no power there to do what God wants.

The saw blade turned while the grist mill functioned. It turned even with the brake on, but until all the power was transferred to it, it couldn't function properly. It needed all the power available, and so do we. At times, we must concentrate all our energy into one area until the task is completed. Spreading ourselves too thin renders us ineffective in the Lord's work, because we're trying to do everything at once. The saw received the power first, then completed its task one step at a time. That's a good lesson for us.

Many Scriptures refer to God's power, and to man's weakness. "For there is no power but of God" (Rom. 13:1) tells us of His authority. Christ is the power of God (I Cor. 1:24), and the weakness of God is stronger than men (I Cor. 1:25). This strength or power goes beyond anything man knows. God has the ability to change man, to enable man to serve Him in spite of any obstacles.

Without Christ, we are weak and can do nothing (John 15:5), but with Him, we are able to do His will.

Jesus said, "All power is given unto me in heaven and in earth." Matt. 28:18. There are no limits on His power and He has made spiritual power available to us. "But ye shall receive power, after that the Holy Ghost is come upon you." Acts 1:8. We need this power, and we must let it flow without resistance in order to serve God acceptably. We can't function with our spiritual brakes on and still expect God to be pleased.

"For God hath not given us the spirit of fear; but of power, and of love, and of a sound mind." II Tim. 1:7. Power — the ability to do, to overcome — is what God gives us. Peter sank in the water when fear overcame his faith. See Matt. 14:15. His fear hindered the power-flow from Jesus to him, and therefore he failed. We too will fail if we turn our attention to our helplessness, or to the circumstances around us. We should instead concentrate on Jesus' ability and power to work through us.

The Christian life is a walk of faith, not sight (II Cor. 5:7) Jesus is leading us, and He knows where we're going, so we don't need to see. If we trust Him as we should, we won't be afraid to step out in faith. Jesus has promised to be with us always, and He can bring good out of bad situations. He can bless us in so many ways, and desires to care for us wholly and completely. Why shouldn't we trust Him wholly and completely?

Fear of the unknown, unwillingness to submit to God, lack of love for others — all of these are spiritual brakes. They hinder the power-flow. Another brake is being over-committed. When we take on too much, we can't do what God wants. Our commitment to Him must come first, and anything which hinders us spiritually is in effect a brake which needs to be released.

Driving a car with the brake on restrains the power, and makes the motor work harder. When the person behind a load rides the brake while the one in the front steps on the gas, it hinders the movement. The helper in the rear thinks it's going too fast, and the one in front who's pulling wonders why it won't go any faster! No matter how great the power, keeping the brake on hinders it. Jesus is in the front and we should let Him set the pace. When we do, progress will be made.

Another spiritual brake is our attitude toward those around us. We can encourage people or be critical. We can lift people up or tear them down. Whenever we manifest anything less than a Christ-like spirit towards others, we put the brakes on. It hinders Christ's work in our own hearts, but also we become a discouragement and a hindrance to others. Surely God is not pleased.

The saw mill was close to the source of power, not out in a field somewhere. The water-power vital to this mill was there flowing all

the time. We likewise must stay close to the source of our power—God. His power is there all the time and doesn't change or diminish. It's up to us to utilize it. Think over your life and see if you've released the brake so His power can flow.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The kind of person God wants me to be... ENTHUSIASTIC

Enthusiasm comes from two Greek words: "en" means "in" and "theos" meaning "God"... or literally "God in one." This would equate to being inspired or possessed by God. It originally had a supernatural connotation but has come to mean intense zeal, fervency and excitement today. Of course all enthusiasm is not good. Some is negative which we will relate later in this discussion.

David was a "man after God's own heart." Very few people have had more zeal for the Lord than this poet of Israel. He celebrated the Lord's goodness and his enthusiasm was contagious. His emotions allowed him to have a deep worship experience and he was totally uninhibited in his expression of praise.

When the ark was brought back to Jerusalem, David could hardly contain his joy. He expressed it with exuberance. People seem very free to show enthusiasm at a ball game. If you do that you are known as a "fan", but have you noticed that when you express enthusiasm at church you are known as a "fanatic"?

David was a fanatic, at least in the eyes of his wife, Michal. He "danced before the Lord" and Michal despised him for it. David was not dancing or worshiping to gain approval from the people but he was responding honestly before the Lord.

The Psalms are full of David's enthusiasm for God. He compares his zeal for the Lord with the panting of a deer for water. He exhorts Israel to clap their hands and shout out songs to God.

It seems as though Nehemiah had a contagious spirit, too, as he aroused the mood of the people after the building of the wall around the Holy City. Having enthusiasm can spare us from discouragement and despair that seems to plague peoples' lives today.

Jesus is the ultimate example of enthusiasm... as He possessed the fullness of the Spirit of God. His enthusiasm was never self motivated and never out of character. He was totally controlled and never responded foolishly to the flesh. Enthusiasm in no way means recklessness... rather it would show control by the Spirit. Christ's all-consuming desire was for the reputation of God to remain righteous and holy.

If you center your life on God you will be enthusiastic for the

things of God. If you set your affections on things on this earth you will be disappointed and will be consumed by the lust of the flesh.

The Apostle Paul was a man of enthusiasm. He was zealous in the traditions of his fathers before meeting Christ on the Damascus Road. He had advanced in Judaism far beyond most of his contemporaries and he had a list of credentials unmatched by his peers. But after accepting Jesus into his life... he "counted as loss for the sake of Christ" all of the previously misplaced enthusiasm.

Sometimes negative enthusiasm is a reality in our lives. In the life of Elijah, a man of deep feelings, we see misdirected enthusiasm. Shortly after a victorious encounter with the priests of Baal, he fled in fear from Jezebel. His zeal turned inward to self preservation and moodiness.

Peter was zealous in his desire that Christ escape the cross but he was in opposition to God's perfect plan. Jesus selected a Zealot as one of His disciples. The Zealots were ultraconservative Jews who were committed to observing the law and overthrowing their Roman oppressors. That strong commitment and zeal was turned toward God's will by the touch of the Master's hand.

James and John were called the "sons of thunder" perhaps because of an intensity that was displayed in their life style. When Jesus was opposed by some Samaritans, they wanted to destroy these rebels. Their enthusiasm was misdirected.

Sometimes enthusiasm is not easy to attain. Someone who is "low-key" by nature finds visable excitement difficult. But when we really understand that enthusiasm is to be filled with God we begin to understand that it can be expressed even with the quiet spirit. Being fully involved is the key to this issue.

God was enthused about Jesus. Three times in the New Testament, He said, "This is my beloved Son, in whom I am well pleased."

I believe to be really godly is to be excited about the Christian walk. We need to be excited about what Jesus is doing for us. We need to be excited about our future.

Do not look on those who are abundantly happy as shallow or superficial. Jesus had deep joy even in the midst of His sorrow. He could see beyond the cross to the glory beginning to descend upon Him.

Remember, enthusiasm is catching. If you are enthusiastically involved in your Christian walk others will catch your fire and pass it on. There is never a shortage of bored and boring people... what the church needs is an infection of Spirit filled members. Whatever you do, do it heartily as unto the Lord (Col. 3:23) "IT IS GOOD TO BE ZEALOUSLY AFFECTED ALWAYS IN A GOOD THING"

## TRENDS

As I opened my Bible the first verse I saw was I Corinthians 11:1, "Be ye followers of me, even as I also am of Christ." To be true, we must be obedient. We must exercise faith in our unchanging God. "Little children, it is the last time: and as ye have heard that antichrist shall come, even now are there many antichrists; whereby we know that it is the last time. They went out from us, but they were not of us; for if they had been of us, they would no doubt have continued with us: but they went out, that they might be made manifest that they were not all of us. I John 18-19.

Satan is very subtile. He is the enemy of the Church. He seeks to decline, cast down, destroy. What begins as a little wind can become a tornado. "... meddle not with them that are given to change:" Prov. 24:21.

A youthful church worker told his minister "If you don't catch the Spirit of the age you will be an antique." The older man replied, "I am not here to catch the Spirit of the age, my responsibility is to correct it." When black cars and plain black hats are avoided or made light of it is an indication that the heart is moving the wrong way. The plain bonnet is almost gone, the prayer covering is losing its power. The first covering mentioned was when Rebecca took a veil and covered herself. Genesis 23:65. We are admonished not to forsake the traditions which ye have been taught.

Worldliness and apostacy creep into the Church slowly but surely. Lace curtains and hard wood floors, luxurious shopping list, money spent for adult toys or recreation has become a normal part of life for many professed Christians. Jeremiah 2:36 is very pertinent today. "Why gaddest thou about so much to change thy way?..." God's remedy; stand in the way and see. Ask for the old paths where is the good way and walk therein. Ye shall find rest for your souls.

When I was quite young I went to Church with my mother. They saluted with a holy kiss, put their arms around one another, inquired of their welfare. They loved one another. It made an impression on me that I will never forget. Parents train your children in the Commandments of the Lord. Worldly fashions, public education, and bad company will bring sorrow to your heart someday.

We have a rich heritage. Let us not imagine that all of a sudden we have a deeper understanding of the Scriptures than our fore-fathers. Let us stay alert to the dangers of the age we live in.

Several years ago when great trouble came to God's people I was discouraged and sought a way of escape. The Lord spoke to me with a strong hand, and instructed me that I should not walk in the way of this people. Savina. "Say ye not a confederacy: neither fear

thou fear, let him be your head." This scripture was the turning point in my life, to turn to the faith of our fathers.

One more thought. It takes a tight bucket to hold water, and it takes a tight organization to hold the Gospel. Pray for the Church. Be true to the one who died for you. Neither is there salvation in any other: for there is none other name under heaven... whereby we must be saved." Acts 4:12.

Brother L. A. Shumake  
Louisa, VA

## ALL THE COUNSEL OF GOD

In this day and age in which we are living there is much professing of Christianity. How many who have accepted true Christianity will stand the test for the blessed eternal reward?

In the record of the saving Gospel, we see in the Apostle Paul's life that he was a brave and courageous Christian worker after he was converted. He went through many hardships. Nothing hindered him from going onward and forward in the spreading of the Gospel.

Christ said to go therefore into all the world and preach the gospel teaching them to observe all things that He commanded. Christ, when speaking to the heavenly Father, said, "Not my will but thine be done." The Apostle Paul was much concerned that all the commands be obeyed and upheld. He said to the elders, "For I have not shunned to declare unto you all the counsel of God." He said that he was free from the blood of all men.

Today many professing Christians, including Church leaders, are satisfied with manmade theories that do not meet the approval of God. We are not to be ashamed of the Gospel of Christ. It is the power of God unto salvation to every one that believeth. Our works show and prove our belief. Many professing Christians including Church leaders have compromised with the great evils of the world and are failing to throw out the Gospel against them.

We are to put on the whole armour of God so we can stand against the wiles of the devil. The Apostle Paul warned against false teachers. He was much concerned about the present Church and also about the future Church. It was proved by his instructions to Timothy when he said after his departure grievous wolves would enter in among them sparing not the flock and would try to lead away disciples after them. The Apostle Paul foretold the departure from the faith that would exist in the latter times. He emphasized the necessity of love that should exist to keep unity in the Church and to accept all the fruits of the Spirit.

In the law of Moses children were to honour and obey their

parents. Christ renewed that command. The Apostle Paul reminded us we shall obey this God given command. Children's disobedience to parents has contributed much to the departure from faith of the Gospel that was accepted by our faithful fore-parents. We need the faith that was once and for all delivered to the Saints.

The Apostle Paul labored hard to strengthen the Church. He spoke, weeping, that some who claimed to be Christ's followers were, in reality, his enemies.

Are we building on the sure foundation? Follow peace and holiness, for without it no man shall see God.

Paul tells us of the woman's place in the Church. He says not to become hardened through the deceitfulness of sin and not to be spoiled through philosophy and vain deceit after the traditions of men. Whatsoever you do, do all to the honour and glory of God. Paul says some would pervert the Gospel of Christ. As a faithful soldier of the Cross of Christ, he forecasted future conditions. Are we fighting the good fight of faith. Salvation cannot be obtained on flowery beds of ease while others fought to win the prize and sailed through bloody seas. Today many professing Christians are victims of the sinful lusts of the flesh. True ministers of the Gospel will be obedient to it. Can we truly, like the Apostle Paul, say, I press onward and forward toward the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus?

The earth and its contents are perishable. Are we striving for the eternal riches of God. True Christians always went forward and never laid their armour down. Are we building on the solid rock, Christ Jesus? Do we have the righteousness of God? Are we among those who have established their own righteousness that does not meet the approval of God and will prove worthless when life in this world is past?

The way apostasy has been sweeping over the Churches in our time, what is in store for the rising generation? The Apostle Paul was very much interested that the Churches be kept clean. What we need is more Church leaders who will throw out the Gospel warning against the evil ways of life and cause many to turn to the way of truth and righteousness that leads to the crown of righteousness that the Apostle Paul looked forward to.

It may be well for us to meditate on the great work the Apostle Paul did in the spreading of the Gospel to others and the up-building of the Church. Christ said to those of His own, "I go to prepare a place for you... that where I am, there ye may be also." Paul says, "Henceforth there is laid up for me a crown of righteousness, which the Lord, the righteous judge, shall give me at that day: and not to be only, but unto all them also that love his appearing."

Heaven is a prepared place for a prepared people. Have we accepted all the counsel of God?

Brother J. F. Marks  
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## SIXTY YEARS AGO

September 15, 1926

SUBJECT: THE CHRIST LIFE

Reuben Shroyer

Life in its foundation facts,  
God is the author of life.

This is a very familiar fact. In the beginning God created man in his own image, in his own likeness made he man. The evolutionist however make us believe such was not the case. Man was in process of development from some form of animal life, until he attained to the high standard of intelligence he now possesses. Well sir, if that theory is correct, then sure there was no Adam and no Eve. Hence no fall, and no redeemer, and the whole system of man's redemption is a farce. The holy scriptures however teach that man was made man from the beginning, and that he fell and that God provided for him a savior, a redeemer and that he is destined to life eternally in bliss, or in despair.

Life in its possibilities should be seriously considered. The possibilities of our life lie in our growth and our attainments. We are bidden, grow in grace and in the knowledge of the truth. It has been said that we can grow in grace because grace is alive as a graft will grow in a living stock. There are three stages of growth. Our faith should grow exceedingly. Then our knowledge should grow. It's possible to know more of God's Word each day. Then too, we should grow to the full stature of manhood and womanhood in Christ Jesus. Our possibilities of growth are large. The righteous shall grow, shall flourish like the palm tree, he shall grow like a cedar in Lebanon. Then, too, our growth should be such as to grow and ripen fruit. The tree is planted for fruit.

A mighty power of our life is courage. Christ is the great teacher of courage. Life calls for courage, in its circumstances, of enterprise and adventure. All conditions of life call for it. The child to walk to talk must exercise courage. The man in business must have courage if he would succeed. In social life it's needed. In church life especially do we need courage. We need it to obey God's law. John says little children "abide in him, that when he shall appear we may have courage." Abide means to continue, not

let go.

Results of courage, character is formed. We refer the reader to Caleb, Joshua, Moses, how that by courage victory was gained. The children of Israel of the Red Sea, the woman who touched the hem of Jesus' garment. Blind Bartemius and many others. "Have courage my boy to say, 'no,'" was a sentence we used to sing. Oh were it heeded, how much better would it be for the boys.

Jesus lived the model life worthy to model after. He was perfection personified. He set a fine example of life. He has become the way, the truth, the life. His life was the light of men. He came that we might have life and that more abundantly. He has said, "I am the resurrection and the life. He that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." He became the first fruits of them that slept. Hear him say because I live ye shall live also. Paul said, "for me to live is Christ, to die is gain." Paul certainly had a proper conception or idea of life. He had a real purpose in living. He lived for Christ. He lifted him up, he followed Christ in the way, was not ashamed of him nor his word. He kept that faith Jesus brought from heaven by authority of the father. He (Paul) realized there was no other name given among men by which we can be saved, hence exalted Christ in his life.

"Life is real, life earnest and the grave is not its goal, dust thou art to dust returneth was not written of the Soul." (Longfellow)

Life is short at the longest, but it is long enough to take the right direction. And direction is the main fact about our life. Yes, the future may be short. John the Baptist's future was short, Jesus had a longer career, it was short, all life is short when looking for the complaint, that the night is short when looking for the dawn, nor that the winter is short if we are eager for the spring. By all means we should live such lives that when we are called to give an account of our work that the master can say to us, well done enter into the joys of thy Lord.

## IS IT TIME TO RECOUNT THE COST?

Luke 14:27-28 "And whosoever doth not bear his cross, and come after me, cannot be my disciple. For which of you, intending to build a tower, sitteth not down first, and counteth the cost, whether he have sufficient to finish it?"

From these verses come the famous saying of Alexander Mack. "Christ Jesus says, 'Count well the cost when you lay the foundation.' Are you resolved, though all seems lost, to risk your reputation, yourself, your wealth, for Christ the Lord as you now give your solemn word?" When this individual recognized as a Brethren leader spoke these words he was referring to a time of

severe persecution. Today there are various Brethren bodies which trace their beginning back to Alexander Mack but we know of none who are in danger of persecution. Does this mean, therefore, that the words he spoke (taken from holy scripture) have no valid use in our present age? It is our conviction that there is a greater need today than in the time of Alexander Mack for Brethren to "count the cost."

First of all Brother Alexander Mack asks us if we are resolved, though all seems lost. The vast majority of Brethren groups and individuals are ashamed to be "Brethren." Though they use the name they have long ago discarded any outward type of identification. While there is definite danger in "church rules" that put a burden on individuals beyond the demands of holy scripture, a lack of guidelines has resulted in the complete abandoning of scriptural truths.

Next Brother Alexander asks if we are willing to risk our reputation. To hear some individuals speak you would believe that Jesus Christ and the Apostles were the most popular people of their time. (We are, of course, speaking of the time Christ spent on earth in an earthly body and recognize that as God he is timeless.) But the fact is the majority of the people rejected both Jesus Christ and the Apostles after the day of Pentecost. The state rulers (for the most part) feared that they would start an insurrection. But even greater than the fear of the rulers of the land was the hatred of the RELIGIOUS leaders! Although it was God's plan from the foundation of the earth for Christ to die for our sins, humanly speaking, it was the religious leaders who had him put to death. It was also the religious leaders who most strongly opposed the efforts of the Apostles. But all too often modern Brethren have compromised scriptural truth so they will not be different from other Christian groups. (We will allow God to decide who is Christian and who is not.) All too many have joined the band-wagon of joining politics and Christianity. Instead of being the persecuted they wish to "persecute" others into following moral laws. The law of the land should include good moral laws but the Church is to provide a greater "law" which is followed by the free will, God has given man, because he or she loves the Lord and desires to please Him.

Next Alexander Mack asks if we are willing to risk ourself. These forefathers believed in Biblical nonresistance. Political pacifism has almost caused this truth to be lost. But, unfortunately, even among those Brethren who profess to believe this doctrine, it is largely lost. It is very interesting that immediately following the "count the cost" verses, Jesus Christ speaks about a king who makes war on another king. Brother Alexander and his followers

realized that Jesus Christ said, "My kingdom is not of this world; if my kingdom were of this world, then would my servants fight, that I should not be delivered to the Jews: but now is my kingdom not from hence." John 18:36. Jesus Christ never asked the worldly kingdoms to lay down their arms! But the New Testament is filled with instructions for the saved individuals to "lay down their arms." For most going to war is no problem. It is when an individual is asked to count the cost of giving up his life in a personal situation that often brings a reluctance.

In the same line of thought, Brother Alexander asks us if we are willing to give up our wealth. All too many have allowed "fundamentalists" to confuse them with such verses as Matthew 12:29, "Or else how can one enter into a strong man's house, and spoil his goods, except he first bind the strong man? and then he will spoil his house." and Matthew 24:43, "But know this, that if the goodman of the house had known in what watch the thief would come, he would have watched, and would not have suffered his house to be broken up." It is strange that many are willing to count the cost and bear reproach for a man made rule (which may be good in itself) but are unwilling to suffer to follow the teachings of the Lord Jesus Christ. In both of the above verses Christ is clearly using a worldly example to give a spiritual truth, as he did concerning the king going to war mentioned earlier. If pressed some will acknowledge the need to give up goods but will draw the line at wife and family. But Luke 14:26 includes these in counting the cost!

Alexander Mack is not our example, but the Lord Jesus Christ is. It is only where the early Brethren followed holy scripture that we can follow them. But all too often we look for loopholes when it comes to REALLY counting the cost. Are we really willing to surrender all for the Lord Jesus Christ? It is so easy to talk "spiritually" but hard to count the cost. If you are unsaved we invite you to count the cost and follow the Lord's invitation to come unto Him. The cost of not following is much greater. It is eternity in Hell.

James M. Hite  
816 E. Birch St.  
Palmyra, PA 17078



Don't drown the man who taught you to swim.

Don't put on a dry shirt until you are out of the water.

## NEWS ITEMS

The Lord willing, the West Fulton Congregation will be having two weeks of revival meeting, Oct. 5 - Oct. 19 with Elder Hayes Reed as evangelist. The meetings will close with a Lovefeast on Saturday, Oct. 18. Come and worship with us.

Sis. Dianne Heisey, Cor.

### A NOTE OF THANKS

A special "Thank You" for the sympathy extended to us in the death of our son. May God reward your kindness.

Wesley and Ruth Speicher  
P.O. Box 261  
Phillipsburg, OH 45354

### ANNOUNCEMENT

Sis. Irene Stout of Wabash, Indiana, whose poems have appeared in the Bible Monitor, has collected a number of her poems on the subject of prayer into a booklet. This booklet is entitled "Tree of Life - Poems and Prayers." This booklet is especially designed for the elderly and weak, although the poems are beneficial for all. The booklets are priced at \$1.95 (postpaid). Any profit from the sale of these booklets will be given to the Church.

Booklets may be obtained from the Editor: Milton Cook  
1138 E. 12th Street  
Beaumont, CA 92223



### THREE THINGS THAT WE KNOW

WE KNOW THAT all things work together for good to them that love God. Romans 8:28.

WE KNOW THAT if our earthly house of this tabernacle were dissolved, we have a building of God, a house not made with hands, eternal in the heavens. II Corinthians 5:1.

WE KNOW THAT, when He shall appear, we shall be like Him, for we shall see Him as He is. I John 3:2.

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR OCTOBER 1986

October 5 - The Law a Shadow - Hebrews 10:1-18.

1. How does the shadow get its image?
2. Did the Law have power to take away sin?

October 12 - A New and Living Way - Hebrews 10:19-29.

1. Under the Law who was permitted to enter the Holy Place?
2. How under the Christ may we enter the new and living way?

October 19 - Vengeance Belongs to God - Hebrews 10:30-39.

1. What was the sin they were guilty of whom judgment was promised?
2. Is there any appeal or escape from the promised judgment?

October 26 - A Godly Faith - Hebrews 11:1-12.

1. What is Faith? and how do we come into that faith?
2. Was it important that Paul made mention of the heroes of faith?

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR OCTOBER 1986

October 5 - Conscience - Romans 13:1-5, Heb. 9:14-15, Acts 24:14-16, I Pet. 2:19-25, Jos. 1:9.

1. Is our conscience always a safe guide to go by? I Tim. 4:2.
2. How may we have a good conscience? I Pet. 3:16.

October 12 - The Ten Lepers - Luke 17:11-19.

1. What is leprosy? and what is it a type of?
2. What did the lepers do to get Jesus' attention? and what must we do to get His attention?

October 19 - The Pharisees and Publican - Luke 18:9-17.

1. What was different in the Pharisees' prayer? and what was wrong with it?
2. Do we have anything good to bring when we pray unto Him?

October 26 - Delusions - Gen. 3:1-7, Luke 6:49, James 1:1-27.

1. What is a delusion?
2. What was the rich man's delusion in Luke 12:19?

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

OCTOBER 1, 1986

NO. 19

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## NAILS, WORDS AND DEEDS

Oh, Nails are not so very big —  
Yet they pinned Christ to the Cross,  
The words He said while hanging there  
Saved the thief from being lost.

Now, there's little deeds we can do  
And little words can be said  
To lead someone to the Saviour  
Hoping their souls will be fed.

There are so many little things —  
Their worth is far beyond price,  
Our life can be an example —  
Leading others unto Christ.

So many little things we do  
Can leave a good impression  
On someone watching how we live —  
Saving souls from transgression.

- Sister Irene Stout  
R. 1 Box 160, Wabash, IN 46992

## SHE HATH DONE WHAT SHE COULD

Sometimes, a simple act has deep significance. The value of the act exceeds the act itself. We may remember some seemingly insignificant event but fail to remember some greater event that happened at the same time. We may remember an illustration or anecdote given as part of a sermon but forget everything else about it.

Jesus never forgot deeds that were done for Him. He especially commended the one who anointed Him before His death. In fact, He not only remembered but said that as long as the Word of God was read by men, they could learn of this deed. It is recorded in three of the four Gospels, so it is significant. Many events that occurred during Jesus' ministry were not recorded at all or only in one Gospel.

What was this highly praised deed? She anointed Him with ointment. She, who wished to sit at His feet and hear the Words of eternal life, while others were troubled with worldly, temporal affairs, was willing to anoint His head and His feet and to pay homage to Him.

How often do we pay homage to the dead after they have passed from this scene and can no longer enjoy these little deeds of kindness? Certainly respect should be shown to the now vacant tabernacle, but how often a deed done before would have been enjoyed. Mary, with more perception than His Apostles, was showing her love and worship before His death. Nicodemus and Joseph of Arimithea showed their respect afterward.

The gift she gave was valuable. It was not of trifling value. Of all

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

OCTOBER 1, 1986

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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her possessions this alabaster box was most dear to her. It was an heirloom. It had been in the family for generations. It had been cared for gently and tenderly so none of its fragile parts would be broken. It had been entrusted to her care by an older relative. She had been reminded how it had been preserved these many years and passed down. She should be very careful with it so she too could pass it on to future generations. It held precious memories of loved ones gone on. Its sentimental value made it dear to her.

The ointment inside the alabaster box was costly. It was worth three hundred pence. That was not a trifling amount among common people. It would have been a sum great enough to help the poor.

This was the best she had, though it may not have been a match for the possessions of a Joseph of Arimethea. The important thing was that she was willing to give what was so dear to her. For the spikenard to be released and made useful, the alabaster box had to be broken. There would be no possibility of ever putting it back together again. It was a total surrender of what was important to her that she might anoint Jesus.

When some found fault with her, Jesus defended and commended her. Whatever good is done for Jesus is never a waste, although it may not seem sensible to the human, materialistic mind. Jesus was pleased with what she had done and commended her for doing what she could. Likewise, He had earlier commended the widow for the two mites that she gave into the treasury. It was sacrificial giving for these women. But they had been willing to give and to not regret it. Both were commended by Jesus though others would have criticized them for wastefulness or smallness. God has never asked anyone to do or to give what was beyond their power to do.

Doing what we can do is far more commendable than not doing anything. We all would like to give a great sum of money or accomplish some great God-honoring task, but we may not be able to. If we did, we might end up taking glory for ourselves away from God.

Like Mary we must be willing to do what we can. We must be willing to give up worldly possessions that are dear to us. There may be any number of things that seem too valuable for us to "waste" as Mary did. It may be an heirloom, an honor, our family or anything else that seems too hard to give up. Willingness to give them up is the prime need. We will receive back something of even greater value, for the knowledge of doing right becomes a reward within itself.

We each have some talent or gift that we can give, whether we are blessed with great or little. Each of us has an alabaster box,

costly and precious in our sight.

Have you done what you could? Have you broken your alabaster box?

## LIMITED LOVE

Love itself is boundless. It places no limits on compassion, kindness, and so forth. But love that is genuine, love that comes from God for others, does have limits. It recognizes boundaries, and keeps us from hurting others. Love for Christ keeps us from being a reproach to His cause. Love for our friends keeps us from doing things which would hurt them. It is true that we can't stop doing everything just because someone might be displeased, but the general principles of Christian living, directed by a loving spirit, do set limits beyond which we won't go.

Perhaps it would be more correct to say we are limited by our love for others, but however we think of it, love is a limiting force. It keeps us from an "I intend to do as I please" attitude. Because of our love for our neighbor, we pick the apples on our side of the fence, but not on his. We respect his other property also, and take special care of any item we might borrow. Love prompts us to return borrowed items as soon as possible, so our neighbor doesn't have to come after his things.

Jesus said, "Thou shalt love the Lord thy God with all thy heart, and with all thy soul, and with all thy mind... and thy neighbor as thyself." Matt. 22:37-39. If we don't love and respect our neighbor and his personal property, we evidently don't care much about ourselves either. Our attention is focused on the present moment only and whatever we can grab for ourselves, without any concern for how our lives affect others. Love helps us evaluate our lives in the light of God's Word and keeps our attention focused on eternal values, not on the trivial things in life.

The preceding statement by Jesus places another limit on love. This limit is that we shall love God more than we love anyone else. Whether it be love for self, for a family member or a friend, this love must be limited or within boundaries, and our devotion to God must be first. God cannot be shoved aside and ignored, while we put someone else on the throne in our lives. Our love for God limits us to putting His will first and setting our own will aside.

Sometimes personal possessions can get between us and God, or maybe a career or some other matter. Again, if we truly love God and recognize our limits, we will in time set aside our personal wishes and live within His will for us. We all have things we'd like to do, or have, and places we'd like to go, but each one needs careful consideration. The question is — am I seeking only to please myself in this, or do I want to please God?

This question requires a personal answer. Our parents, friends or fellow-Christians are unable to answer for us. Our answer will be determined by several factors but the overruling one is our love for God. Putting our hearts, souls and minds into loving Him keeps our love for ourselves and others in the proper bounds. This boundary keeps our attention focused on the Lord and it also keeps our energy focused on worthwhile matters.

Without boundaries or limits, our love for ourselves would soon run wild just as animals who have no fenced range. We would just be "kicking up our heels", and enjoying life, with no concern about what's ahead. God loves us and wants us to be happy, but He also wants what is best for us spiritually. His love sets limits; it does not turn us loose to do as we please. God knows best, and we would be wise to live within His limits.

"Let us therefore follow after the things which make for peace, and things wherewith we may edify one another." Rom. 14:19. Love limits us to a life of unselfishness, and peacefulness. This doesn't mean giving in to everyone's whims in order to keep peace, but it does mean to edify and uplift each other. Jesus said, "If ye love me, keep my commandments." John 14:15. This means we are limited by love to a life of obedience to God. There are other limits on what, whom, and how much we can love besides the ones mentioned. Think on them and recognize these Godly limits in your life.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The kind of person God wants me to be... WISE

Wise from the Biblical point of view is defined as responding to life from God's point of view. This wisdom is practical and not theoretical. It is not related to your IQ but to your openness to God. In fact, it is not even pursued in a philosophical way.

The Greek and Hebrew understanding of wisdom has always been very different from each other. To the Greek, wisdom came from discussing ideas. To the Hebrew, it was understood to be from a dynamic God. The Hebrew learned about God from His everyday activity. There was no philosophical argument for His existence.

If wisdom is responding to life from God's point of view, then we need to know what His point of view is. God is the total source of wisdom and He reveals it to those who are humble enough to see Him. In James 3:17, we learn that it is a gift from above.

Many men of the Bible were wise because God gave them wisdom. Solomon and Daniel are classic examples here. They

feared the Lord and Psalms 111 tells us that "the fear of the Lord is the beginning of wisdom."

God reveals himself in the written and Living Word. ALL of God's works reveal His wisdom but the Cross is the most profound demonstration of it. The Cross revealed God's love and justice and it revealed the amazing plan of God for the reconciliation of the human race.

To see life only on the human plane is folly. To be a fool in the Biblical sense is to cut yourself off from God. To call a person "a fool" brings God's judgment because it is the same as cursing him. The "wise" of this world who refuse God's revelation through Jesus are actually fools in God's eyes. "Has not God made foolish the wisdom of the world?" I Cor. 1:20. Human wisdom does not lead man to truth or enable him to live wisely. Socrates, the Greek philosopher said, "Where reason leads, there we must go." Contrast that with Daniel who stated in Dan. 2:20, "Blessed be the name of God for ever and ever, to whom belong wisdom and might."

Joseph learned through suffering to respond to life from God's point of view. God is more concerned with how we face life's issues than what we face. If we learn to respond properly to what life gives us, we will become Christlike by having everything go our own way. We are able to grow best when working against resistance. Even our muscles work in this same way.

Daniel had a similar response to life. He feared God more than human opposition and God honored him for his faith. God STILL honors men who are wise and respond to Him in a humble and positive manner. We need to be about our Father's business.

Contrast these men to Eve. She was intrigued by the chance to become wise... but this was not godly wisdom she was seeking. She accepted Satan's advice and disobeyed God's will. Man makes the same foolish decisions today. This seems inherent in our humanistic world which rejects God. Human wisdom fails because it avoids God. There is no alternative. Either you respond to life from God's point of view and show wisdom or you are condemned by following the world's perspective.

Although we can not call a man a fool, when God calls a man by this title, he deserves it. The rich man in Jesus' parable was so blinded by his possessions that he left God out of his plans. He showed a lack of wisdom in that he tried to hold on to what he could not keep and let go of what he could not use!

If you are learning to respond to life the way God wants you to, you are gaining wisdom. If you are asking God for wisdom (James 1:5) you will follow His precepts in reaching that lofty goal. But, if you are a part of the "Now Generation" or the "angry generation" which we read so much about today, your life is being lived in vain.

In reality, wisdom seldom comes from youth. Wisdom comes with experience, age and humility in a Spirit led person. We need the older members who have experienced many of the things youth will experience in the future to draw from. We can eliminate many problems from our lives, as younger individuals, if we learn to LISTEN to those who have experienced the problems we will face. Ironically, some older people today are afraid of age. Could it be that they are also afraid of wisdom?

We live in a secular, humanistic society. It is a proud and irreverent generation. People live as if history just recently begun. Science would have us to believe that we have arrived because of our great advancements in that field. Have we? No! People cannot cope with everyday life. They have conquered outer space but their "inner space" is still a wilderness of confusion. They have shut out God... that only source of wisdom.

Don't be squeezed into the humanistic, secular mold. Be transformed by a renewed mind in Christ Jesus. Live in the wisdom of a risen Savior and reject today's philosophies. Respond to all of life from God's point of view.

Brother Len Wertz

## "TWO WAYS"

"There is a way which seemeth right unto a man, but the end thereof are the ways of death." Prov. 14:12.

The Bible is the inspired Word of God. God's plan of salvation for man. Unfortunately man has another way that seemeth good to him. He reasons that if we are saved by grace, why can't I just say grace and be saved? I'll raise my hand at church and pray with the preacher, ask God to forgive me and cleanse my life from sin. This may seem good but if we read the Word it will tell us to work out our own salvation. Phil. 2:12, which simply means, obey. Do what Jesus tells us to do to be saved. "By works, faith is made perfect." James 2:22.

We are descendants of Adam and because of one man's disobedience we are made sinners. Romans 5:19.

This is why Jesus said, "Verily, verily I say unto thee, except a man be born again he cannot see the Kingdom of God." John 3:3. We need to be born again into the family of God. Where by the obedience of one shall many be made righteous." Romans 5:19.

If we cannot see the kingdom of God, why don't we read the word so that we may know how to be born again? Because He makes us responsible.

He certainly doesn't mean for us to sit down and order the Lord to take care of everything for us. As long as He is my Saviour it

would seem more fitting that I should follow His instructions rather than Him following mine.

He tells us exactly where we stand and what to do to be saved. "All have sinned and come short of the glory of God." Romans 3:23. "... the soul that sinneth, it shall die." Ezek. 18:4. Until we have died we are not dead to sin and alive unto God, even if we have asked God to forgive.

If we are not dead to sin we will continue to be convicted of sin again and again.

Christ died for us but in order for that death to apply to you and I we must come to God in the name of Jesus Christ because He is the One who died. That is why Jesus commanded the disciples to go "teach all nations baptizing them in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost." Matt. 28:19. He says "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Mark 16:16.

When I am baptized in another name, I am denying myself and becoming a new person in Christ Jesus. This is the new birth Jesus commanded of us before we can see the Kingdom of God.

"Know ye not that so many of us as were baptized into Jesus Christ were baptized into His death?" Romans 6:3. This is taking up the cross because in His name I am dead to sin, because He died. Romans 6:11.

I am sorry that there are some who are ignorant. They resist the truth and spoil baptismal services, by teaching those that are being baptized that they are already saved, and that baptism in the name of the Father and of the Son and of the Holy Ghost doesn't save, because it is just a symbol.

These are false teachings that deny the power of God and serve only to confuse well meaning people. Many people go for this, just like I did before the truth was revealed to me. If the only way for man to be saved was for Christ to die on the cross, only the devil would have us think we get saved without being baptized into that death.

We get a beautiful picture of God's way of salvation, when Noah and his family entered the Ark and were brought out of the old world into the new. This was a figure of baptism into Jesus' name which brings us out of the old life into the new.

"Even baptism doth also now save us." I Peter 3:21.

Humanist teachers would have old Noah pray through from the old world into the new, and then enter the Ark after the flood. Otherwise, it would not be figurative to their idea of getting saved first before being baptized in Jesus' name.

Did you ever hear anyone say that a prayer or raising a hand at church doesn't save? Man wouldn't dishonor his own idea or his

own way. It's God's way that he dishonors because of his blindness; he sees only natural water in baptism that doesn't save, rather than the Father, Son and Holy Ghost which does save. When the Spirit of God is in it, the water becomes a living water. "The Spirit and the water and the blood: and these three agree in one." John 5:8.

"But the natural man receiveth not the things of the Spirit of God; for they are foolishness unto him. Neither can he know them because they are spiritually discerned." I Cor. 2:14.

In the early church those who wanted to be saved were told to: "... repent and be baptized every one of you in the name of Jesus Christ for the remission of sins, and ye shall receive the gift of the Holy Ghost. For the Promise is unto you and to your children, and to all that are afar off...." Acts 2:38-39.

Who are we that think we can take a short cut and be saved upon demand while disregarding what the Lord has told us to do to be saved?

There is nothing wrong in prayer, but how can we believe prayer will save us if we can't believe the Lord Himself when He has promised us salvation if we believe and get baptized in His name? We don't really believe, do we? Those who know the truth and believe don't go around saying that baptism in Jesus' name doesn't save because that is denying the power of God and dishonoring our Lord and Saviour.

We need to believe and trust Him and Praise Him for a wonderful Plan of Salvation.

We must teach the truth and pray with young converts, but God forbid that I should deceive anyone by teaching salvation by prayer without being baptized in Jesus' name.

The way of the Cross is the only way. If it isn't then Christ died in vain.

Men's way of getting saved through prayer has man's promise of salvation.

God's way of the cross, by being baptized into His death, (Romans 6:3) has God's promise of salvation.

"The preaching of the cross is to them that perish foolishness: but unto us which are saved, it is the power of God." I Cor. 1:18.

My prayer is for those who have taken man's way, that by the power of God they may break the humanistic or vain religious bondage and claim God's promise of salvation by believing and being baptized in Jesus' name for the remission of their sins.

They will not only enjoy having their past sins under the blood, but will enjoy no condemnation in the future, because "we are sanctified through the offering of the body of Jesus Christ, once for all." Heb. 10:10.

"Whosoever is born of God doth not commit sin: for His seed remaineth in him and he cannot sin: because he is born of God." John 3:9.

This doesn't mean we don't have our faults. We have them as long as we have our natural bodies. Confess your faults one to another. James 5:17. But in Christ we are dead to sin. "Blessed is the man to whom the Lord will not impute sin." Romans 4:8.

"There is therefore now no condemnation to them which are in Christ Jesus who walk not after the flesh but after the Spirit." Romans 8:1. Isn't that wonderful? Thank you, Jesus!

Looking at baptism through the natural eye we have:

1. Water that can't wash away sins.
2. A symbol that doesn't save.
3. It isn't the new birth.
4. You can get baptized four times and it will not do you any good.
5. It is something you will want to do after you are saved. The Lord only knows why.

Looking through the Spiritual eye you see baptism as the master key to salvation, whereby we can work out our own salvation. Phil. 2:12.

This is what baptism is and what we receive from it:

1. A Father, Son and Holy Ghost baptism. Matt. 3:11, 28:19.
2. Receiving the gift of the Holy Ghost. Acts 2:38.
3. For the remission of sins. Acts 2:38.
4. Washing away our sins. Acts 22:16.
5. Saving yourselves from the untoward generation. Acts 2:40.
6. The new birth born of the water and of the Spirit into the kingdom of God. John 3:5.
7. Adds us to the Church. Acts 2:41.
8. Self denial. Matt. 16:24-25.
9. Putting on Christ. Gal. 3:27.
10. Taking up the Cross. Romans 6:3, Matt. 16:24.
11. Dying to sin. Romans 6:7, 8:10.
12. Joint heirs with Christ. Romans 8:17.
13. The washing of regeneration. Titus 3:5.
14. Putting on the whole armor of God. Eph. 6:11, 13.
15. Confessing with the mouth and believing unto righteousness. Romans 10:9-10.
16. Faith made perfect by works. James 2:22, I Peter 1:22.
17. The key to the Kingdom of God. Matt. 16:19.
18. Fulfilling the law. Matt. 5:17, Romans 10:4.

19. "Baptism doth also now save us", and gives us a good conscience toward God. I Peter 3:21.

"How shall we escape if we neglect so great salvation?" Heb. 2:3.

Bro. Isaac Stoll  
5631 Bean Road  
Allen, MI 49227

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

October 1, 1926

### HAVING AND NOT HAVING

J. F. Britton

Having and not having is a compound proposition, and virtually introduces the possibility of folks being in the church and having their names on the church book, and claiming and professing to be Christians, and at the same time, have no evidence that they have ever passed from death unto life, neither have they received the blessedness of the Holy Spirit. In the 12th chapter of I Cor. the Apostle Paul had under consideration, spiritual gifts and various abilities that function in the Christian church, but all are controlled and work in unison under the same administration. Then he takes the human body, as an object lesson to illustrate the Body of Christ (the Church) and as the human body has many members, so has the Body of Christ many factors that function in the church, through human agency, but all directed by the Holy Spirit in the execution of God's ordained purpose of the church. At the close of the chapter, Paul urges us to, "Covet the best gifts." And then says, "And yet show I unto you a more excellent way." And in the 13th chapter Paul proceeds to unfold and present, "The more excellent way." In all of its majestic splendor and crowning glory, that centers in the one great supreme qualification love. In the first three verses, Paul designates and mentions, "Five thoughts", and "Three havenots." We will consider the first though. "Though I speak with the tongues of men and of angels, and have not love, I am become as sounding brass, or a tinkling cymbal." A man may possess literary abilities, and be gifted in tongues and able in oratorical powers, yet if he lacks the one supreme qualification, love, he is only a blaring boaster in the sight of God. We will now consider the second and third "Thoughts" in the second verse. "And though I have the gift of prophecy, and understand all mysteries, and all knowledge: and though I have all faith, so that I could remove mountains, and have not love, I am nothing." Suppose man could soar away and explore the mystic realms of philosophy, and return with a solution through science, and an

unlimited faith, and not be characterized by love. He only goes to the dump as refuse. We now come to the fourth and fifth "thoughts" in the third verse. "And though I bestow all my goods to feed the poor, and though I give my body to be burned, and have not love it profited me nothing." Even though a man should be liberal with his possessions and benevolent, and even sacrifice his life for the welfare of humanity, and not inspired and actuated by love, he fails, falls and is rejected. Hence it is very apparent that the "more excellent way", that Paul has under consideration, is the "way of love", which is God's way. It is love that brought Jesus into this old world of sin, that we might have life, and that we "might have it more abundantly." It is love, and only love that will bring poor lost, and helpless sinners to Jesus Christ, the fountain of life. No wonder Jesus said, "Many will say to me in that day, Lord, Lord, have we not prophesied in thy name? And in thy name have cast out devils? And in thy name done many wonderful works? And then will I profess unto them, I never knew you: depart from me ye that work iniquity." Matt. 7:22-23. There is evidently something seriously and radically wrong with the work of those church workers. Why? Their service does not meet the approval, and will be denounced by our Lord. The outstanding and supreme evidence is that their work is not qualified by love.

Love is the fountain whence,  
All true obedience flows:  
The Christian serves the God he loves,  
And loves the God he knows.  
May love — that shining grace  
O'er all my powers preside;  
Direct my thoughts, suggest my words  
And ev'ry action guide.  
Oh, it was love, 'twas wonderous love,  
The love of God to me;  
It brought my Saviour from above,  
To die on Calvary.

Jesus could very appropriately say, "I am the way, the truth, and the life: no man cometh unto the Father, but by me." John 14:6. And Jesus' way was God's way, and God's way, was the way of love. "He that hath my commandments, and keepeth them, he it is that loveth me: and he that loveth me shall be loved of my Father, and I will love him, and will manifest myself to him. Judas saith unto him, not Iscariot, Lord, how is it that thou wilt manifest thyself unto us and not unto the world. Jesus answered and said unto him, If a man love me, he will keep my words: and my Father will love him, and we will come unto him and make our abode with him." John 14:21-23. These scriptures have a very vital bearing and function in our subject of "Having and Not Having." Folks may

have a fine reputation in the church, and be noted for their liberalities and activities in the church but unless there is that living and abiding union in fellowship and relationship with God, through Christ and the Holy Ghost they will not have a title to those "mansions" that Jesus is preparing for his people. "And unto the angel of the church in Sardas write: These things saith he that hath the seven stars: I know thy works, that thou hast a name that thou livest, and art dead." Rev. 3:1. In Weymouth's Translation, this text reads as follows: "These are the words of Him who has the seven spirits of God and the seven stars. I know your doings, you are supposed to be alive, but in reality you are dead." An awful sad arraignment against a Christian church. The Sardis church had a name, but their spirituality and vital piety had departed. And in the same sense that the Church in Sardis was dead, the writer is wondering if the Church of the Brethren has not just about reached the same lamentable and deplorable condition? At least there seems to be grave reasons to think so. For the questions are vibrating and echoing everywhere what is to be done? And what is the remedy. The writer believes the remedy and the restoration of the church is given in the second and third verses, "Be watchful, and strengthen the things which remain, that are ready to die: for I have not found thy works perfect before God. Remember therefore how thou hast received and heard, and hold fast, and repent. If therefore thou shall not watch, I will come on thee as a thief, and thou shalt not know what hour I will come upon thee."

Brethren and Sisters in the Lord, will we arise through grace divine to the sacred task that is fraught with stupendous responsibilities and consequences, that is confronting us? Eternity alone will reveal the results of our attitude and actions at this time, when every ounce of energy and even the life blood of the church is being contested and challenged to the utmost. As a challenge to Peter's love, "Jesus saith unto him the third time, Simon, son of Jonas, lovest thou me? Peter was grieved because he said unto him the third time, Lovest thou me? And he said unto him, Lord thou knowest all things; thou knowest that I love thee. Jesus saith unto him, Feed my sheep." John 21:17.

Brethren can we look Jesus in the face, and say, 'Lord, thou knowest all things, thou knowest I love thee?' Jesus said "Wherefore by their fruits ye shall know them." Matt. 7:20. "A charge to keep I have, a Lord to glorify, A never dying soul to save, And fit it for the sky." "And so there remains faith, hope, love — these three: but of the greatest is love." "For God is love."



## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

Offers Eternal Life

J. H. Moore

Jesus not only saves us from our sins, but he offers eternal life to all those who believe on him. Hear this statement: "He that believeth on me hath eternal life" (John 6:47). Another statement: "He that heareth my word, and believeth on him that sent me, hath everlasting life" (John 5:24). At this point we may again quote John 3:16: "For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten Son, that whosoever believeth in him should not perish, but have everlasting life." Here we have salvation from sin, and the promise of life eternal as well. No greater gift could be offered to man, for nothing is so desirable, and so highly valued as life, and especially is this true as it applies to the life that is beyond, — the life of the future, — everlasting life. This is what Jesus offers to every man and woman of the race, who will, in faith and obedience, to accept him as their Savior.

## STATEMENT OF OWNERSHIP

Statement of Ownership, Management and Circulation (Act of August 12, 1970; Section 3685, Title 39, United States Code). Showing the ownership, management and circulation of The Bible Monitor, published semi-monthly at Wauseon, Ohio 43567, October 1, 1986.

1. The names and addresses of the editor, publishers, and owners are: EDITOR, Milton Cook, 1138 East 12th Street, Beaumont, CA 92223; PUBLISHER, Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, OH 43567; OWNER, Dunkard Brethren Church, 1138 East 12th Street, Beaumont, CA 92223.

2. There are no stockholders, bond holders or other security holders.

3. The average number of copies per issue distributed by mail and otherwise the previous twelve months was 1,399.



## MARRIAGE

### CHUPP - SWEITZER

Bro. Donald Chupp, son of Bro. Alvin and Sis. Mary Ellen Chupp and Sis. Mabel Sweitzer, daughter of Bro. Clifton and Sis. Valeria Sweitzer were united together in the eyes of God and His family on May 31, 1986, at Elizabethtown College. Bro. Don and Sis. Mabel reside at Rt. 1 Box 221-A, Dallas Center, Iowa 50063.

## NEWS ITEMS

### GOSHEN, INDIANA

The Lord willing, a ten day Revival Meeting will be held at the Goshen Congregation beginning October 24. Bro. Henry Walker will be the speaker. Communion services will be held November 1. All are welcome to come and worship with us during these services. Please remember these meetings in prayer.

Sister Sharon Swihart, Cor.

### ENGLEWOOD, OHIO

If the Lord wills, the Englewood Congregation will engage in a Lovefeast celebration, Saturday, October 25. Services will begin at 10:00 A.M. with Lovefeast proper at 7:00 P.M.

We welcome all to spend Saturday and Sunday with us.

Sister Ruth Speicher, Cor.

### PLEVNA, INDIANA

The Plevna Congregation will have a Harvest Meeting, October 26, 1986, the Lord willing. Bro. Edward Johnson plans to be with us to bring the message.

We extend an invitation to one and all to spend the day with us.

Sister Verda Lorenz, Cor.

### LITITZ, PENNSYLVANIA

Come and worship with us at Lititz. There will be a two week revival from November 3 through 16. Bro. Robert Carpenter from Peru, Indiana plans to be with us.

If you cannot attend, please remember us in prayer.

Sister Dorcas Myers, Cor.

Debt makes fret.

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(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

OCTOBER 15, 1986

NO. 20

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## RECIPE FOR LIVING

Some things a man must surely know,  
If he is going to live and grow:  
He needs to know that life is more  
That what a man lays by in store,  
That more than all he may obtain,  
Contentment offers greater gain.

He needs to feel the thrill of mirth,  
To sense the beauty of the earth,  
To know the joy that kindness brings  
And all the worth of little things.  
He needs to have an open mind,  
A friendly heart for all mankind,

A trust in self - without conceit -  
A strength to rise above defeat.  
He needs to have the will to share,  
A mind to dream, a soul to dare,  
A purpose firm, a path to plod,  
A faith in man, a trust in God.

- Alfred G. Walton  
Selected by Sister Karen Blocher

## FOOLING GOD

"Trick or treat" is the familiar slogan of Halloween. Children, and some not so young, put on costumes to hide their identity and go about seeking a treat with the implied threat of a trick.

Halloween is a pseudo-religious holiday that has become an excuse for instilling ungodly habits in our children. There are many reasons why Christians should be very leary of Halloween. "Trick or treat" carries an implied threat of mayhem if no treat is forthcoming. This teaches children first of all to beg instead of laboring for the treat. It also teaches them to get what they want by threatening harm instead of depending on God's giving or the kindness and generosity of others. This custom teaches children to hide themselves behind costumes and masks instead of being open and forthright which is a devious way to gain what is wanted.

Halloween with its emphasis on ghosts, ghouls and other mystical themes may lead to an interest in the occult. Often people dress up as witches, devils or other creatures associated with the occult. This makes such devilish creatures to seem benign and not so dangerous as they really are.

The play acting of Halloween may make fantasy the way of life for some. They hide behind masks and live a life of fantasy instead of an open life, meeting daily problems openly.

The idea of the costumes of Halloween is to fool those who are confronted by the "trick or treaters." Supposedly they are not recognized and treats are given to the unknown. The trickster believes he has fooled those who have given treats, yet how few have actually been fooled. It is the one doing the fooling who is

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

OCTOBER 15, 1986

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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fooled because he does not realize that he has been recognized even though he is costumed. The fooler has been fooled.

Unfortunately, there are many who believe that they can fool God, but in the end, like the trickster he is the one who is being fooled. Men have ever tried to fool God. In the Garden of Eden, Adam and Eve thought they could fool God by hiding among the trees. After their sin, their nakedness had become apparent and they wanted to hide from God's sight. But God not only knew where they were but what they had done.

A few years later, Cain thought he could fool God by burying Abel's body and by an uncaring attitude. But, again, God knew. A curse was put on Cain for he had sinned not once but at least thrice. He had first sinned by bringing a dead sacrifice, then in furious jealousy had killed his brother and finally had tried to lie to God.

These lessons from Genesis should have surely shown men that they could not fool God. Yet, we find throughout the Bible instances of men doing the same thing as Adam and Cain. They did what they wanted to do, then either tried to hide their deeds or themselves from God or else they tried to reason away what they had done. Saul, David, Solomon, Judas, Ananias and Sopphira and many, many more tried to fool God. None of them were successful. It seemed that those who could have profited from the mistakes of the past failed to do so.

All thought that they could fool God. The scriptures plainly state "Be not deceived; God is not mocked: for whatsoever a man soweth, that shall he also reap." Gal. 6:7. Despite the failed attempts of the past, people, yet, try to fool God. They do not succeed any better than their forefathers. People have the same human nature that has plagued men throughout history. They still want to fool God.

They not only try to fool God by covering up the deeds they have done but they attempt to even change the Word of God. They set aside the commands of God, reasoning either they are outdated or that God did not mean what He commanded. Many of the ordinances of the Church have been set aside or changed. People will claim to love and serve God although they have set aside His commands concerning their love and service. Feet washing, Lord's Supper, prayer covering, plain attire, women's uncut hair, trine immersion for remission of sins and many other plain commands of God have been set aside, thinking that God will not care and that He will require no penalty for their insolence.

As those of old learned that they fooled only themselves when they tried to fool God, so many today will find themselves fooled.

God will not be fooled.

The "trick or treater's" attempts to fool his victims are futile. So are the attempts to change God's Word and commands by people today.

## TOUCHING THE HEART

"For as he thinketh in his heart, so is he." Prov. 23:7.

Beyond that which we can see with human eyes is the part of man which is the basis for all he is — his heart. We can see what comes from one's heart as the thoughts become actions, but God can see the heart itself. He sees the motives, the desires and the goals. He sees the thoughts and knows what the heart is centered on. God alone knows whether the heart of a person and his conduct are in agreement.

Whatever a man may be to start with, if his life is to change, his heart must be touched and changed. Something must reach past the surface thoughts into his innermost being, to begin the changes deep in his heart. Unless, and until, this happens, his life will continue on as before with only minor variations. The thief will continue to steal, the liar will continue to lie, and the lazy man will continue to be lazy.

We can alter our actions and our appearance to make ourselves look like we're serving Jesus, but if nothing has happened in our hearts, we're only fooling ourselves. We may be able to fool people at least for awhile, but we can't fool Jesus. The scribes and Pharisees made quite an impression — on everyone but Jesus. He knew their hearts were not right with God, and plainly pointed out their hypocrisy. They went to a lot of trouble to appear righteous, but nothing had happened in their hearts.

In Prov. 4:23, we are told "Keep thy heart with all diligence; for out of it are the issues of life." This means a whole-hearted effort to keep our lives in line with God's will. But what does it take to touch our hearts in the first place, to turn us from a life of sin? It takes Jesus to touch our hearts! We need a Savior; we need to have our hearts changed and made new, and Jesus is the only one who can do this for us.

"Therefore if any man be in Christ, he is a new creature: old things are passed away; behold, all things are become new." II Cor. 5:17. New desires, new attitudes, a new way of life — all of it has changed. Why? Because Jesus has touched the heart, the innermost part of man, and changed it. No one but Jesus can reach deep inside us. No one but Jesus can change what's within us. Until our hearts are truly touched, we'll continue on as we've always been.

"With my whole heart have I sought thee: O let me not wander from thy commandments." Psa. 119:10. Love, and a desire to please God, motivate us to obey Him from the heart. If His Word doesn't reach our hearts, we'll be following the rules (at least) without any real heart-motivation. We'll be just going through the motions much as the scribes and Pharisees were. They had a rule for every occasion and religiously followed them, but, as Jesus said, they omitted the weightier matters.

In all their attention to detail, they bypassed the most important things. If we're not careful, we will do the same. II Tim. 3:2-4 contains a list of those whose hearts were untouched by Jesus, but they were still going through the motions of serving God. They had a form of godliness, but denied God's power (3:5), and the result was a cold, lifeless religion. Until our hearts are changed, and God's power is within us, we can't be anything but cold and lifeless also.

If we are Godly, if we have His power within as we should, it can be seen in our everyday living, not just in what we are on Sunday when we meet for worship. Having a form or appearance of being Godly doesn't mean that we are. The power of God within us is what makes all we do real and alive and meaningful. Without His power within, we are just an empty shell, a pretender, with nothing to offer anyone.

"For with the heart man believeth unto righteousness." Rom. 10:10. We can make rules and follow them carefully, but that will not change our hearts. We must go beyond that which reforms, that which merely cleans up the outside. Rules without the "want-to" which brings willing obedience become only a burden. We need spirit-filled teaching which touches our hearts and encourages us to seek and serve Jesus. We need to believe from our hearts and to let Jesus change us from the inside out.

"For the Lord seeth not as man seeth; for man looketh on the outward appearance, but the Lord looketh on the heart." I Sam. 16:17. It was true in Samuel's day and it's true now, that we tend to measure a person by what we see. But God looks beyond the surface things and checks out our hearts. He knows what our real motives are. He knows whether or not we've been touched by Jesus. There is no point in pretending, because God knows what we really are.

"For out of the abundance of the heart the mouth speaketh." Matt. 12:34. Whatever is in our hearts will eventually come out, whether it be good or bad. If Jesus has touched your heart, good will come from your life. If not, you will continue on in the same rut, the same ungodly way of life. You can be reformed and

polished up, but it takes Jesus within to give you the real thing. Have you been transformed by Jesus? Has he touched your heart?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

The kind of person God wants me to be.... FRIENDLY

My definition of friendly is "reaching out and touching someone." Someone means those in the faith and those outside of it. In fact, we learn in the Old Testament that the Israelites were commanded not to wrong a stranger or oppress him because they were to remember that they, too, were once strangers in the land of Israel. (Ex. 22:21) They were to "Love the sojourner." (Deut. 10:18, 19) The clearest example demonstrated in the Old Testament, showing Middle Eastern hospitality, is Abraham's receiving the three guests. We, too, might entertain angels unawares!

The real test of our friendliness is not our response to our friends but how we respond to strangers. You can go in to some conservative churches today and never be spoken to or acknowledged. God forbid that this kind of response should continue because of the coldness of our hearts and our lack of compassion. DO YOU just gravitate toward your friends or family after services at church while strangers are ignored? (PERSONALIZE THE QUESTION!)

Jesus told the story of the Samaritan, both to show how unloving the Jewish leaders were and to show how to show love to others along life's pathway. The Samaritan showed love when the Levite and priest didn't. He met the man's needs at his own expense. We can well relate this story to Jesus who left the perfection of Heaven for a home among the earthly. Jesus was rejected by "His own"... and we, too, may be rejected, but that does not negate the responsibility to go and to care.

Jesus instructs us that friendliness is not just an option but it is the quality of righteousness. Judgment is pronounced on those who do not take the time to shelter strangers, to clothe the naked, to give drink to the thirsty, to visit the prisoners and to feed the hungry. Hospitality in our day bears little resemblance to the biblical narrative or even to the Middle Eastern custom. What a phenomenal outreach we would have in the church today if we, as God's people, were really friendly.

The Epistles relate our responsibility to show love both to our fellow brethren and sisters and the needy and rejected of the world. We must be "given to hospitality." (Rom. 12:13).

The quality of friendliness challenges us to show how Christ demonstrates this characteristic. When we reach out and touch

some stranger we can expect the grace of God to be there because we are doing what Jesus has asked us to do. We become the eyes... the hands and feet of the Lord.

Remember this... It is not enough to just act friendly. You must have God's purpose in mind for the other person in order to demonstrate Christlikeness. This is giving friendship without receiving it in return.

· Am I teaching that we should be "friends with the world?" Never! "Friendship with the world is enmity with God." (James 4:4) How can we be friendly without developing a friendship? How did Jesus eat with tax collectors and sinners and not become tainted by them? We can show forth a right life style. We can smile and give people warm handshakes. We can build communication on wholesome motives. We can show love because they are created in the image of God... the One we love more than all of life and the world. We can communicate that others have worth... that they are in process and not yet lost as long as there is life. In short, we reach out because God reached out. We must desire that the Body of Christ be built up and it will never happen if we portray lives of unfriendliness.

Reaching out involves risk and sacrifice. Will you dare to be genuinely friendly? Try it and watch your life change... watch the lives of others change.

Brother Len Wertz

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

October 15, 1926

### QUIT YOU LIKE MEN

Ruth Drake

When Paul wrote his letters of reproof and instruction back to the Corinthian brethren he knew that they were surrounded on all sides by evil influences. He could not remove the influences, nor could he remove the Corinthian church from their evil surroundings, so he gave them the command found in I Cor. 16:13, "Watch ye, stand fast in the faith, quit you like men, be strong."

The church of today is existing in conditions very similar to those of the early Corinthian church. If we but listen we can hear God's clarion call, "Quit you like men." Have we the courage to quit the sinful practices of the world because God has said that Christ gave Himself for us that He might redeem us from all iniquity and purify unto himself a peculiar people, zealous of good works. (Titus 2:14) We may think we are popular with our non-Christian friends if we

are not at all "peculiar" and just follow in their footsteps, but the chances are they will call us weaklings after we have stepped across the bars between God's garden and satan's bramble patch. Moreover we will find upon trying to return that the thorns of the brambles are sharp and they have left their scratches on our conscience. Let's stay on the safe side of the bars before we grieve the Holy Spirit once too often. May we "stand fast in the faith" to such an extent that we can lead lives that are pleasing to God even though surrounded on all sides by sin.

Especially to the young people of today comes the ringing call for true whole-hearted service. They are meeting temptations on every hand that older people know nothing about. If our young people are sidetracked by satan's allurements what will be the result in the church in the next generation. May we as younger people catch a vision of true service through the simple life such as God has portrayed in the New Testament, and by living up to that vision be able to pass it on to our children. Do you realize young people that the church of tomorrow is resting on our shoulders?

Young men, can you quit yourselves like men and say NO when your companions ask you to go to the amusements of the world? Can you walk away from their ridicule with a smile, knowing that your heavenly Father is smiling in approbation of your obedience?

Young lady can you let your adorning be "that meek and quiet spirit which in the sight of God is of great price?" (I Pet. 3:4) Can you "be strong" and carry your modest dressing throughout your school years even if you are dubbed slow or old maidish by your schoolmates? Can you have courage enough to do what you know is right even if it isn't what the crowd does? You will command more respect from your companions if you carry out your convictions than if you profess to live the simple life and then follow the fashions set by the world. Sometimes it seems as if "no" may mean losing our best friend but remember there is a friend that sticketh closer than a brother. I Cor. 10:13 brings a promise that I wish every boy and girl, young man and young woman would copy and place in their rooms where it would be the first thing their eyes saw each morning upon arising. Temptation comes to us all and we are only made stronger by resisting, but when we wilfully say YES to temptation then sin has come into our lives. Look up I Cor. 10:13 before you forget.

## THE BLESSINGS OF ETERNITY

The great blessings of eternity were made possible through the sacrifices of our Heavenly Father and His Son. Christ said, "In my Father's house are many mansions:... I go to prepare a place for

you... that where I am there ye may be also." Christ's coming was to seek and to save the lost. We must accept the blessings of God in this life to inherit His eternal blessings.

The Apostle Paul referred to them as a crown of life. He said that it was laid up for him and all who love Christ's appearing. He said I press onward and forward toward the mark of the prize of the high calling of God in Christ Jesus.

When John the Revelator was on the lonely Isle of Patmos, he had a glimpse of the beautiful eternal city of God. In his written book of Revelation he gives us a description of the eternal city of God. A city, four square, where the walls are of jasper and the streets paved with pure gold, where the gates swing outward, where there never are any storms or night there. It is a place of joy, peace and happiness. It is a peace that passeth understanding and a peace that the world can never give. No pain nor death nor fears are there. God shall wipe away all tears.

"... Eye hath not seen, nor ear heard, neither have entered into the heart of man, the things which God hath prepared for them that love him." It is a glorious place prepared for the righteous when this life is over. What a joyful time it will be to meet with the faithful servants of God, who are recorded in His Word. The faithful who passed away before our time here on earth, plus some whom we have labored with and shared in sorrow and trouble together, our hope is to meet with them in that eternal home of joy, peace and rest. There will be no more good-bys or sad farewells there. There is a song that says, "Oh think of the home over there." Let us not be among the foolish who will not make their calling and election sure.

When we were young in this life we were looking forward for better times to come in this world, which have not been so. We believe, the hardships in the Apostle Paul's life caused him to look forward to the great blessings of eternity. An aged person once said to me, "Some day I will be young again."

Only those who have washed their robes and made them white in the blood of the Lamb will be permitted to live in the eternal City. The righteous shall shine as the stars in the sky and shall live and abide at the Saviour's right hand.

Are we letting our Christian light shine? Some times in this world when some people are having hardships, others instead of trying to comfort and console them will place or impose more hardships upon them. The Golden Rule is not applied. Also, many are indulging in sin, using strong drink, tobacco and dope and many other evils that are harmful to their health and cause suffering already in this sinful world. Sin separates people from the blessings of God in this life.

John the Revelator gives us a description of what is in store for those who fail to cleanse themselves from the works of iniquity and obey not the Gospel of Christ. He had a glimpse of the eternal place prepared for them.

The Psalmist David said, "... my cup runneth over. Surely goodness and mercy shall follow me all the days of my life: and I will dwell in the house of the Lord for ever." When we accept the blessings of God in this life we become a blessing to others. The way of the transgressor is hard. Christ said, "My yoke is easy and my burden is light." Have we found it so? Is He leading us in the path of righteousness for His name's sake?

Today many are trying to serve two masters. We cannot be a child of God and a servant of Satan. God is not mocked. Whatsoever a man soweth that is what he shall reap. Christ said, "When I come again shall I find faith on the earth." Are we among the faithful few? Narrow is the way that leads to eternal glory and few there be that find it. Broad is the way that leads to eternal destruction. Satan is out to deceive and if it were possible would deceive the very elect.

God's Word tells us when Christ returns to earth there will be a great separation, some will be taken and some left. Some who depended on their good works for salvation have not cleansed themselves from the works of iniquity and will hear the voice, "Depart into everlasting punishment." Are we prepared for the glorious blessings of eternity? Many are Satan's pernicious ways in these perilous times. We must be faithful and true to our blessed Saviour to be prepared for the first and best resurrection to receive the glorious blessings of eternity.

Are we faithful to the trust Christ left us? Will we drop this perishing robe of flesh and gain the eternal prize with all the redeemed ones, never to part, enjoying all the blessings of eternity?

Brother J. F. Marks  
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## AVOIDING RESPONSIBILITY

Hebrews 12:2 "looking unto Jesus the author and finisher of our faith; who for the joy that was set before him endured the cross, despising the shame, and is set down at the right hand of the throne of God."

This is an era in which, it would seem, the vast majority of individuals are trying to avoid responsibility. For several years we

had no fault car insurance. Today no fault divorces are very popular. It is no wonder that this is widely used since many marriage vows are simply "as long as we both shall LOVE," in place of the scriptural "as long as we both shall LIVE."

The courts of the land have allowed criminals to go free because the individuals were under the influence of drugs or alcohol (which actually is a drug). Some church people seem to think that a person who was raised in a less desirable environment should not be punished for crime or at least given a lighter sentence. While we do not see it as our place to tell the law makers and enforcers how to handle criminals it is certainly allowing individuals to shun responsibility. We realize that a Christian is not to take part in taking the life of an individual. But Romans 13:4 informs us, "For he (rulers of government) is the minister of God to thee for good. But if thou do that which is evil, be afraid; for he beareth not the sword in vain: for he is the minister of God, a revenger to execute wrath upon him that doeth evil." Paul wrote this concerning Nero an authority who is considered one of the most barbaric kings in history. Both he and Peter lost their lives under this king. Therefore we see our responsibility as Christians to be obedient to the laws of the land not directly contrary to the Scriptures. How often do we disobey a law that has nothing to do with our freedom of worship because we feel it is a "bad" law? One of the hardest things an individual has to do is to submit to leaders, whether it is leaders of government or leaders in the Church.

While the scriptures are plain that we are to submit ourselves to the leaders of state and Church, this does not alleviate us of the responsibility of searching the scriptures to see if these things be so. Our final authority is the Word of God not the words of a preacher. We, personally, see a need for "church rules." But our actions and thoughts should not be so "because the church says so." Rather we should love the Lord Jesus Christ enough to desire to follow all the teachings of scripture.

There was the time that the elder members of the church set the example for the youth. But all too often today it is the youth who are telling the elders what can or can not be accepted. Many have put their stamp of approval on so called "christian rock" because the youth said it was a good way to win converts. James informs us in James 3:10-11, "Out of the same mouth proceedeth blessing and cursing. My brethren, these things ought not so to be. Doth a fountain send forth at the place sweet water and bitter?" While this is referring to the use of the tongue, we believe it can have many applications. It is much easier to go along with the trends of the time than to take the responsibility of pointing out error. As our opening verse states Christ was willing to endure the cross though

He despised the shame that went with it. When we stand for truth it will often cost us reproach and perhaps standing alone.

Fathers often refuse to accept the responsibility of being the head of the home. While there is certainly a place for the wife to voice her opinion the final decision should be with the man, according to scripture. However, in many homes neither mother nor father has the rule. It is the children who decide what is right or wrong. This is especially true when teenagers are a part of the family. While we realize the need of bringing youth into the church and keeping them there, we can not compromise on scriptural principles in order to do so.

It is so easy to shrug your shoulders and let others decide for you than to take the responsibility of taking a stand for your convictions. Is it your desire to be popular or scriptural? Many have taken the road of least resistance and allowed Hollywood and fashion designers to decide the style of clothing and types of amusement that are appropriate. When the Bible speaks of nakedness it often is referring to being immodestly attired rather than actually nude. But women no longer want the responsibility of keeping the thoughts of men pure. While on the other hand men are responsible for their thoughts as well. Excuses are always easier than taking responsibility.

Men, are you willing to take the responsibilities God has given you? Women, are you willing to take the responsibility of being submissive? Are we all willing to be responsible to Holy Scripture as we make decisions in life that affect others as well as ourselves? Let us truly make Jesus "the author and finisher of our faith." Let us share the joy of enduring a cross rather than enjoying the pleasures of sin for a season.

James M. Hite  
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### THREE RESOURCES ALWAYS AVAILABLE

**GOD'S RICHES:** My God shall supply all your need according to his riches in glory by Christ Jesus. Philippians 4:19.

**GOD'S PRESENCE:** Yea though I walk through the valley of the shadow of death, I will fear no evil, for thou art with me; thy rod and thy staff they comfort me. Psalms 23:4.

**GOD'S STRENGTH:** The salvation of the righteous is of the Lord; he is their strength in the time of trouble. Psalms 37:39.

## "COME UNTO ME"

Matthew 11:28-30    Jeremiah 29:13

Come unto me, the Lord is sweetly calling.  
I will give you rest, says He.  
I will carry your heavy, heavy load;  
The Lord calls, Learn of me.

I am meek and lowly, the Lord is sweetly calling.  
My burden is light, says He.  
Put your heavy load upon me  
And I will turn your bound soul free.

You shall find me, the Lord is sweetly calling.  
I will hearken unto you, says He.  
When you search for me with all your heart  
I'll find you and you'll find Me.

Come unto me, the Lord is still knocking.  
There's danger in delay, says He.  
Cast off your doubts and just embrace Him  
And say, "Dear Lord, I come to Thee."

- Lynn H. Miller  
RD 2, Newmanstown, PA 17073

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

Preaching the Word

J. H. Moore

Just before taking his departure from earth, Jesus told his disciples to "go into all the world and preach the Gospel to every creature." (Mark 16:15). But why preach the Gospel? Because "it pleased God by the foolishness of preaching to save them that believe." (I Cor. 1:21) Paul, in Rom. 10:14, asks concerning those who would hear, believe and be saved: "How shall they hear without a preacher?" Jesus went about the country, not only healing the sick, but preaching the Gospel of the kingdom. He sent out the twelve, and later the seventy, to spread the news of the kingdom to the lost sheep of the house of Israel. Philip, some time after the ascension, went to Samaria and preached the Gospel (Acts 8:35). And we read of others who went forth, preaching the Gospel, and in this way the foundation for congregations was laid in the hearts of the people. The preaching of the Gospel led to faith in the things preached, and faith led to obedience and salvation. So it will be seen how God, by the foolishness of preaching, can save those who believe.

## **SCRIPTURES RELATED TO PRACTICES PECULIAR TO THE DUNKARD BRETHREN CHURCH**

**BAPTISM** — Acts 2:37-39; Rom. 6:1-6; Matt. 28:19-20; Matt. 3:6;  
Mark 1:9; Mark 16:16; Acts 8:12; Acts 8:38; Acts 9:18; Gal. 3:27.

**CLOSED COMMUNION** — I Cor. 10:20-21; I Cor. 12:27; Eph. 4:3-6;  
Rom. 12:16; II Cor. 13:11; Phil. 4:2; I Pet. 3:8.

**FEET WASHING** — John 13:4-17; I Tim. 5:9-10.

**THE LORD'S SUPPER** — John 13:2-4; Luke 22:20; I Cor. 11:20-21;  
25.

**THE CUP** — I Cor. 16:25; Matt. 26:27-28; Mark 14:23-24.

**THE BREAD** — I Cor. 11:25-29; Matt. 26:26; Mark 14:22.

**SELF EXAMINATION** — I Cor. 11:28, 31; II Cor. 13: 5.

**HOLY KISS** — II Cor. 13:12; I Cor. 16:20; I Thess. 5:26; Rom. 16:16;  
I Pet. 5:14.

**SEPARATION FROM THE WORLD** — II Cor. 6:17; Heb. 7:26;  
Titus 2:14; I Pet. 2:9; I John 2:15; Rom. 12:1-2.

**MODESTY IN DRESS** — I Tim. 2:9-10; I Pet. 3:3-4.

**ANNOINTING WITH OIL IN THE NAME OF THE LORD** — James  
5:14-15.

**SUNDAY AS OUR DAY OF WORSHIP** — Acts 20:7; Matt. 28:1;  
Mark 16:2; John 20:1; (Heb. 3:18; Heb. 4:4-10)

**TEMPERANCE** — I Thess. 5:22; I Cor. 6:10; (I Cor. 6:19; II Cor.  
6:16 - Temple of the Holy Ghost).

**NON-RESISTANCE** — John 18:36; II Cor. 10:4; Matt. 5:44; Rom.  
12:2.

**DIVORCE AND REMARRIAGE** — Matt. 5:32; Rom. 7:3.

**NON-SWearing** — James 5:12; Matt. 5:34-37.

**GOING TO LAW** — I Cor. 6:1-9.

**DUTIES OF AGED MEN \* AGED WOMEN \* YOUNG MEN \***  
**YOUNG WOMEN** — Titus 2:1-7.

**SCRIPTURES YOU CAN GIVE IF APPROACHED BY SOME OF  
THE CULTS THAT ARE GOING FROM DOOR TO DOOR** —  
Gal. 1:8 - "But though we or an angel from heaven, preach  
any other gospel unto you than that which we have preached  
unto you, let him be accursed."

II Tim. 3:16-17 - "All scripture is given by inspiration of God,  
and is profitable for doctrine, for reproof, for correction,  
for instruction in righteousness: That the man of God may  
be perfect, throughly furnished unto all good works."

Selected by Sister Edith Moss

## NEWS ITEMS

### PLEASANT RIDGE, OHIO

Our fall Lovefeast is planned for November 15-16, the Lord willing. There will be services all day on Saturday, beginning at 11:00 A.M. We invite all who can to come and be with us in these services.

During our recent evangelistic meetings, two received Christ and were baptized. May God's blessings rest on them, and on all who heard the Word.

Sister Eileen Broadwater, Cor.

### PLEASANT HOME, CALIFORNIA

"Rejoice in the Lord alway: and again I say, Rejoice." Philippians 4:4. Our reasons for rejoicing are many, because God is great and worthy of praise. We thank Him for the upbuilding we received in our recent Revival Meetings.

We are happy to report that our Church family has grown in number also. Please pray for April Zehr, Pam Embry and Michael Reed as they begin a new or renewed walk with the Lord.

II Corinthians 1:11, "Ye also helping together by prayer for us", that each member will feel a special responsibility toward their spiritual welfare.

Sister Edith Moss, Cor.

## THREE WAYS TO BE HAPPY

HAPPY IS THE MAN that findeth wisdom, and the man that getteth understanding. Proverbs 3:13.

He that despiseth his neighbor sinneth, but he that hath mercy on the poor, HAPPY IS HE. Proverbs 14:21.

But and if ye suffer for righteousness' sake, HAPPY ARE YE. I Peter 3:14.

## THREE DUTIES OF BELIEVERS

TO GROW: But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Savior, Jesus Christ. II Peter 3:18.

TO GLOW: Let your light so shine before men, that they may see your good works, and glorify your Father which is in heaven. Matthew 5:16.

TO GO: Go ye into all the world and preach the gospel to every creature. Mark 16:15.

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR NOVEMBER 1986

November 2 - A Better Country - Hebrews 11:13-29.

1. Where is this country that is a better country? John 14:2.
2. How do we get there? Rev. 22:14.

November 9 - What Faith Can Do - Hebrews 11:30-40.

1. What is faith? Hebrews 11:1.
2. How do we get faith? Rom. 10:17.

November 16 - The Author and the Finisher of Our Faith - Hebrews 12:1-13.

1. Who is the author of our faith? and where does our faith begin? I John 3:23.
2. What does faith do for us? Rom. 5:1.

November 23 - Thanksgiving - Philippians 4:1-23.

1. Do we need to give thanks when everything goes well? Deut. 8:10.
2. What do we give thanks for? Thess. 5:18.

November 30 - Refuse not Him that Speaketh From Heaven - Hebrews 12:14-29.

1. How does Christ speak to us? John 5:39.
2. How important is it that we hear Him that speaketh from Heaven. John 12:48.

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR NOVEMBER 1986

November 2 - Seeking God - Deut. 4:29-31; Ps. 105: 1-8, Isaiah 55:1-8, Luke 11:9-10, Acts 17:26-31.

1. Who should seek God? Isaiah 55:1.
2. When should we seek Him? Isaiah 55:6.

November 9 - Thoughtfulness - Deut. 32:1-5, Jos. 1:8-9, Hag. 1:4-7, Ps. 1:1-6; I Tim. 4:15-16.

1. On what should we meditate? Jos. 1:8.
2. Where does the thought begin? Matt. 15:19.

November 16 - Honor Parents - Eph. 6:1-3, Ex. 20:12, Pr. 1:8, Luke 2:51, John 19:26-27.

1. In Exodus 20:12 what command is given with a promise?
2. Prov. 6:20-23 gives us some advice about honoring father and mother.

November 23 - Thanksgiving - Ps. 92:1-2, I Chr. 16:8-12, Eph. 5:19-20, Phil. 4:6-7.

1. Read Psalms 50:1-14 concerning that of giving thanks.
2. What are we to give thanks for? I Thess. 5:18.

November 30 - Our Friendship - I Sam. 20:1-42.

1. The example of friendship of Naomi and Ruth. Ruth 1:16.
2. What does James 4:4 have to say about friendship with the world?

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

NOVEMBER 1, 1986

NO. 21

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## IS IT JESUS?

When a worldling looks upon you  
Is it Jesus that he sees?  
Or just a member of a sect or group  
That teaches differently?

Has Jesus made a difference  
In that sinful life you had?  
Or are you merely following rules  
To make your loved ones glad?

Is Jesus your foundation?  
Is He more than life to you?  
Do you daily commune with Him?  
Or is it man's will that you do?

For man can't tell if when you pray  
Your prayers reach heaven above.  
Seek not to please the men below  
But seek Jesus and His love.

Lynn H. Miller  
RD 2, Newmanstown, PA 17073

## IN A FEW WORDS

Hebrews 10:22-24 contains, in a few phrases, the essence of God's Plan of Salvation. He, through His Spirit, moved the author to write these words, which are full of much meaning. The writer wants his readers to understand salvation in terms that apply to their daily lives so he writes in terms, they and we can grasp.

In each of these three verses, the writer, begins with "let us." This makes it personal for each one, yet unites all who do into one effort. This plan is not different for different classes or groups of people but is the same for all. No one is either too good or too bad to have a part, so the admonition is to each one, "let us."

The first thought is to "draw near." God ever desires the lost to draw near, and accept and follow Him. He desires those who have previously come to Him to draw nearer and nearer continually. He wants none to stand away from Him but to be as close as possible.

We are to draw near with a "true heart." It is not the mere professor but the true believer that He is seeking. He wants those who will sincerely come to Him not those who will come by lip but not by heart. This true heart must be in "full assurance of faith." Faith is the first ingredient of the plan of salvation that involves the believer on an active level. The plan of salvation is provided potentially for all by God's Grace, which is not given in response to men's activities. God's Grace is unmerited favor shown to sinful men, especially by the giving of His Son for men's redemption. Men have no part in that provision. Faith is the first action that men can take to make the potential, reality. There must be a reaction by man to what God has provided, not in a deed but in the heart's

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

NOVEMBER 1, 1986

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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acceptance. Faith is a belief and trust in God and in the way He has made for men to have the salvation that they could in no wise receive any other way. There must be faith before anything else can happen to bring about redemption from sin.

Once there is belief and acceptance of God's provision, there must be a renunciation of sin. This means to have not only a sorrow for the sins of the past but a fervent desire to be free from sin in the future. This is "having our hearts sprinkled from an evil conscience." The conscience knows and records our sins and we must be rid of them. We know God can not tolerate sin so it must be repented of and turned from, so we might stand before God.

Having Faith and being repentant, there still remains the washing away of sin. We can not literally be washed in the blood of Christ but by water baptism we can have our sins remitted. Although most today consider baptism to be but an optional command unnecessary for salvation, we do not need to be ashamed to be aligned with Jesus and the other New Testament writers. Jesus declared, "He that believeth and is baptized shall be saved; but he that believeth not shall be damned." Mark 16:16. Paul wrote, "Therefore we are buried with him by baptism into death; that like as Christ was raised up from the dead by the glory of the Father; even so we also should walk in newness of life. For if we have been planted together in the likeness of his death, we shall be also in the likeness of his resurrection." Rom. 6:4-5. Our bodies must be "washed with pure water." "Washed" in the original conveys the idea of the body being bathed, which answers to immersion.

Once we have complied with these terms of the plan of salvation, all is not done. The decision having been made to be a Christian, now we must "hold fast the profession of our faith." There is a lifetime of faithful living before us. We must "hold fast" that profession we have made by adding deeds to our words. We dare not let this provision, made by God at great cost for us, be lost through our neglect or willful misconduct. We are told to go on from these first principles of Christianity and give ourselves totally to God!

We are not to consider just our own life but we are to be helpful to others who have made a similar profession. We need to "consider one another to provoke unto love and to good works." Usually when we provoke another it is to do evil or to get even, but as Christians we are to admonish and encourage each other to do better in Christian living. By our fellowship with others, we can help them to love more and to produce the good deeds by which Christians should be known. This is one reason why we should not forsake "the assembling of ourselves together."

In these three verses, in a few words, the writer has given us many thoughts that should encourage us in our Christian lives and to make us eternally thankful to our Heavenly Father for the plan of salvation which He has made available to each of us.

## THE OTHER 95%

"Decision is 5%, follow-through is 95%. A good start doesn't insure a strong finish." When we decide to serve Christ, it takes more than just talk to get the job done. We've heard remarks like "talk is cheap" and know that many thoughtlessly promise this or that, but never carry it out. Even those who fully intend to do right often fall far short of their stated goals.

So what does it take to insure a strong finish as a Christian? The first step is faith in Christ and submitting wholly to Him. A half-hearted approach will only lead to failure. Next, get into His Word, and find out what He expects of you. Every employee first asks the boss for instructions, then goes to work. Third, count the cost as you consider God's Will for you. It won't always be an easy road, but it is a rewarding one.

You must seek God's strength to carry out His Will. You can't do it on your own. Jesus said, "Without me, ye can do nothing", and the sooner you realize this, the better. In that same verse, John 15:5, Jesus said, "I am the vine, ye are the branches." He is our only source of strength and if we try to function as a Christian in our own strength, we will fail. As the branches draw strength from the vine, so must we draw our strength from Jesus.

"Jesus said unto her, I am the resurrection and the life: he that believeth in me, though he were dead, yet shall he live." John 11:25. Faith in Jesus must precede any attempt to serve Him for several reasons. One is we can't give ourselves to Christ and His cause unless we have faith in all He stands for. Another is "without faith it is impossible to please Him." (Heb. 11:6) This kind of faith is an active, serving faith, not a passive, carefree existence.

Where do we get such faith? Basically, it is a gift of God. "So then faith cometh by hearing, and hearing by the word of God." Rom. 10:17. In God's Word we learn of His love, His care, and the promises He has made. It is where we learn what He expects of us, His children. The more we read and the more we learn, the better able we are to serve God. Our service would be limited severely if we had no idea what He wanted us to do.

"As newborn babes, desire the sincere milk of the word, that ye may grow thereby." I Peter 2:2. Every new Christian needs special food and it too is in God's Word. As growth takes place, more

substantial food — the meat of God's Word — is needed. None of us can get along without it. As growth continues, there is also a cleansing. "Now ye are clean through the word which I have spoken unto you." John 15:3. God's Word changes us as we give heed to it, and gets rid of the bad while filling us with His goodness.

"Study to shew thyself approved unto God, a workman that needeth not to be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth." II Tim. 2:15. We can't work for the Lord without first studying His instructions for service. We can't properly apply the Word to our lives unless we study it and are familiar with it. This will take more time and effort than it does to read a newspaper; it can't be done in haste. Whatever effort you put into study of God's Word will be well worth it, but newspapers and such aren't very rewarding.

"For with God nothing shall be impossible." I Luke 1:37. This means even you and I can live for Jesus, if we really want to. Where does our power and strength for this come from? "Ye shall receive power, after the Holy Ghost is come upon you." Acts 1:8a. When God's Spirit enters our hearts, things begin to happen. We are made alive in Christ, our ways change, and people can tell we've been with Jesus. On our own, without this power, we would never get anywhere spiritually. "Our sufficiency IS of God" (II Cor. 3:5) and this fact won't change.

Jesus said when facing the Cross, "Not as I will, but as thou wilt." Matt. 26:39. He also told us to take up our crosses and to follow Him. This means we must submit to God's Will just as Jesus did. He completed what God asked Him to do and so should we. In the Christian life, self must be set aside so God's Will can have first place. A Christian spirit is truly a submissive one.

"So likewise, whosoever he be of you that forsaketh not all he hath, he cannot be my disciple." Luke 14:33. Another verse says we are to present our bodies a living sacrifice which is reasonable service (Rom. 12:1). The cost of serving Jesus is our all. We can't hold anything back for ourselves. As you can see, the other 95% is the real, down-to-earth Christian living. No matter what we say, our lives reveal our true goals and desires. Talk is cheap, but living for Jesus is not. Which is it for you?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## BROKEN AND POURED OUT

Bethany, a small village not too far from Jerusalem, was a place of much comfort and solace for our Lord. Here lived Mary, Martha, Lazarus and Simon the Leper. It was Simon's house which was the setting for this lesson.

Even though Jesus had enemies he also had loyal and loving friends even in and about Jerusalem who never could do enough for Him. Simon was one friend who was so kind as to invite Jesus to sup with him and Jesus was gracious to accept the invitation.

While He was there "... there came a woman having an alabaster box of ointment of spikenard very precious and she brake the box and poured it out on his head." Mark 14:3b.

Brokenness is generally considered a loss and that which is poured out as a waste. One often puts forth great effort to protect their lives and possessions in order to preserve them at the expense of the eventual loss of both. The child of God finds that it is only through a broken and poured out life that one can lay up treasures in Heaven.

Jesus' very body was broken and He poured out His soul unto death for us. Shall we think that our boxes of ointment are too precious to pour out upon Him? We owe our Lord a great debt of love. He deserves to be honored with the very best that we have and all that we have. We need to consider the consequences and the tragedy of keeping back any part of the price as did Ananias and Sapphira. Are we giving Him the precious ointment of our best affections; the first fruits of our love?

We have great opportunity to live the "broken and poured out" life. Solomon tells us how to do it. "Whatsoever thy hand findeth to do, do it with thy might..." The hungry, the poor, the lonely of the world are crying out for our alabaster boxes. The sin-sick of the world are dying for lack of that balm of Gilead.

Christ's triumph was not in the shouts of the multitude or the palm branches strewn in His pathway. It was in His suffering; His broken and poured out life.

The unnamed woman in our lesson lost neither her ointment nor her labor. It was an eternal investment as Christ will honor those who honor Him.

The great need of the Church today is for broken and poured out lives. When this is accomplished there will be no time for discord and strife. The old proverb, "Idleness is the devil's workshop," has been fulfilled in our own day. It is not just the case with the lambs of the flock but even more so with the full-grown sheep. Lazy and discontent we soon look for holes in the fence and greener pastures but broken and poured out lives will be healing, helping, blessing and prospering the Kingdom of God.

May all go to Bethany and learn the lesson of the broken and poured out life!

Brother David L. Skiles

## EXAMPLES

Christ set for us examples,  
    Showing us things we should do...  
He taught the people, saying,  
    Do as I have done to you.  
What He taught to do back then  
    Was meant for us too, today,  
His words, the same forever -  
    It's the strait and narrow way.

God's people are peculiar,  
    Like His Word tells us to be,  
When baptizing, we immerse  
    In the name of Godhead three,  
Father, Son and Holy Ghost,  
    All have a place in our life;  
Sisters have their head covered  
    When they pray or prophesy.

Long hair's a glory to them -  
    But is a shame unto men,  
He prays with head uncovered  
    (His hair CAN'T be removed then.)  
Angels "minister unto those  
    Who are heirs of salvation,"  
This makes more clear the scriptures,  
    Also the Resurrection.

Wouldn't you rather practice  
    All Christ's precepts under race  
Than some day to be sorry  
    And find you've no "resting place?"  
Not claim a Heavenly mansion -  
    Where, I'm sure you'd like to go —  
So - Why not do as He says  
    And escape that time of woe?

He'll soon descend from Heaven,  
    In the twinkling of an eye...  
For the last trumpet shall sound  
    And the dead in Christ will rise,  
Then the living saints will too -  
    They will meet Him in the air  
And go to His glorious Home  
    Of no sorrow, fair or care.

- Sister Irene Stout  
R. 1, Box 160, Wabash, IN 46992

## WHAT WOULD JESUS DO?

I have been reading Charles Sheldon's book, "In His Steps." Even though it is fictional, this very story could happen in any church here in the twentieth century. We all know and realize that Satan is alive and well, trying to tear apart our church and families to gain more followers to do work for him.

As Christian people we are always seeking ways to gain knowledge of Christ. Peter writes in II Peter 3:18 "But grow in grace, and in the knowledge of our Lord and Saviour Jesus Christ. To him be glory both now and for ever. Amen." How can we grow in this grace and knowledge? Christ preached in His sermon on the Mount "If ye then, being evil, know how to give good gifts unto your children, HOW MUCH MORE shall your Father which is in Heaven GIVE GOOD things to THEM THAT ASK HIM?" Matt. 7:11. Christ will give to us what we ask for as long as it is good and in HIS will. James writes in James 1:5 "If any of you lack wisdom, let him ask of God, that giveth to all men literally, and upbraideth not; and it shall be given him."

What better way could we obtain Christ's knowledge than to do things the way Jesus would do it. How can we obtain knowledge from Christ if we go places Christ would not go, get upset when we should be silent, not obeying the laws of the land, and many others. We go about our daily life living the way we want to, trying to think of ways to convince ourselves we are going what is right. We have vowed to God that we want to live like Him. Are we living like Him? For Him? Is our light really shining out to those men in darkness? Do people know we are children of God by our actions and not just by our dress? Do we actually care for the drunkard, outcast, drug user, poor and the homeless?

What better way could you obtain knowledge from Christ, than to do what Jesus would do? Before you do anything ask yourself 'What would Jesus do?' You may even have to get on your knees to pray to God more often than what you do now. But as you ask what Jesus would do and by doing that you will be gaining the knowledge of the way Christ is. You, personally, would know more about Christ, because you are living the way He lived His life.

But you say "I will have to suffer", "I will have to carry too heavy of a cross", "I will lose money" or "I will lose friends." It is recorded in the Bible "... if so be that we suffer with him, that we may be also glorified together." Rom. 8:17. "For it is better, if the will of God be so, that ye suffer for well doing, than for evil doing." I Peter 3:17. "If we suffer, we shall also reign with him: if we deny him, he also will deny us:" II Tim. 2:12. If we suffer just a little, what is that suffering compared to reigning with Christ? The suffering that we may do

on this earth is small compared to what Christ suffered for us. Since He has suffered for us, why can we not suffer for the cause of Jesus Christ? Each time we suffer for Him we gain more and more knowledge as to what Christ is and what He would do.

As you go through each day and through each activity ask yourself "what would Jesus do in this situation?" When you are able to answer this question do it, even if you have to give up something that is dear or important to you. When someone pulls out in front of you — do only what Jesus would do. When you turn the radio on to worldly music (music that does not praise or uplift God) ask 'What would Jesus do?' then do it. This may mean a lot of things: quitting your job for one of less pay, volunteering instead of getting paid, giving more money away, driving an older car instead of a new one, giving an extra car away, living in the slums, not taking a vacation. Whatever it is, if you feel that is what Christ would do if He was in your situation — then do it.

As you make this change and in every situation you only do that which Christ would do, your life will prosper and flourish, full of the knowledge of Christ and being filled with His light.

Through each incident remember that you are suffering for Christ's sake, and "I can do all things through Christ which strengtheneth me." Phil. 4:13.

Sister Mabel Chupp  
Dallas Center, Iowa

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### "Sweet Peace"

We so often enjoy singing the song, "Sweet peace, the gift of God's love" ...and yet, I so seldom see real peace reflected in the lives of young people and adults alike. Is it that we don't really understand what peace is? If we would use synonyms to express peace, we could call it harmony, concord, freedom from disorder, calm, serenity, tranquillity or the end of war. These words would well express a Christian's understanding of peace. The real problem is that we too often understand peace in terms of externals. Peace is viewed as environmental. If the circumstances are right, then we can be at peace. If they aren't, peace eludes us.

Jesus said, "... my peace I give unto you: not as the world giveth, give I unto you. Let not your heart be troubled, neither let it be afraid." John 14:27. The circumstances were not very peaceful for the disciples or for Jesus, yet Jesus was able to say, "My peace I give to you."

Peace is INTERNAL, not external. Peace comes from a proper relationship to God, not a response to the circumstances. The peace that God gives rises above circumstances. Remember in the story of the stormy sea Jesus rested peacefully while the disciples were frantic. Jesus was surprised that they had relinquished their peace and it was restored as the weather changed.

Peace is the result of a right relationship with the Prince of Peace. Galatians 5 relates it as one of the fruits of the Spirit. As long as you walk in union with Christ you will have peace. Paul writes in Romans 5:1, "Therefore, being justified by faith, we have peace with God through our Lord Jesus Christ."

David was a hero turned fugitive through the insane jealousy of Saul. He was hunted by Saul and his men like an animal, yet he enjoyed the peace of the Lord and was not fearful, "... though a host encamp against me."

When Gabriel announced to Mary that she would give birth to the Son of the Most High, Mary replied, "Let it be to me according to your word." She had peace in a time when most women would have gone into shock.

Simeon was one of the saints whose life and testimony we appreciate. God had revealed to him that he would live to see the Messiah. After seeing Him, he was able to say, "Lord, now lettest thy servant depart in peace..." Simeon received peace from the Prince of Peace.

Conversely to the peace movement idea of our time, Jesus did not believe in peace at any price. The peace He brought came when God poured out His wrath against sin. Isaiah said, "The chastisement of our peace was upon him."

Peace for the Apostle Paul came through his relationship with God. Though attacked by most every adversity life had to offer, he claimed this special gift. He lived the idea of Psalm 37 that communicates that the end of the perfect and upright man is peace.

Peace often comes through conflict and confrontation. Sometimes we avoid the peace of reconciliation by detente... or surface peace. You need to become a peacemaker, even if it means you must stand alone and speak the truth, confront a friend with whom you are not at peace or accept the inner struggle that often comes when you choose to go God's way. PEACE IS NOT A MEANS BUT IT IS A RESULT... A FRUIT... OF THE HOLY SPIRIT.

This is not a peaceful world. In the sixties many people talked about peace. Optimism abounded. Choirs sang, "Let there be peace on earth and let it begin with me..." Yet today, World War is a menacing possibility. Many Americans have withdrawn from

participation in peace groups with skepticism and cynicism. The time is drawing very near when people will demand PEACE AT ANY PRICE. And that is when Satan's Antichrist will make his move. Scripture says that he will deceive the world by engineering a temporary peace, something that no political leaders of our time have been able to do. Our hope for lasting peace comes ONLY through Christ.

Peace is threefold: Peace with God, peace with others and peace with ourselves. The result of peace with God IS the ability to have peaceful relations with others. If Jews and Gentiles could call each other friends because of Jesus, we should be able to get along INSIDE the Body of Christ. God commands us to be eager to maintain the unity of the Spirit in the bond of peace. (Eph. 4:3)

In the body of Christ, there seems to be an eagerness to challenge rather than maintain the peace. If we are going to be peacemakers, then we must be careful to speak words which unify the body of Christ. We are to do whatever we can to live peaceably with ALL brothers and sisters. If we are not at peace with others, we are to be reconciled. We are to seek forgiveness or forgive; we are to approach others who have offended us or whom we have offended. We are to treat the fruit of peace as one of the precious manifestations of the Spirit that it is. Seek peace and pursue it. (Ps. 34:14) I challenge you to work tirelessly for SWEET PEACE, THE GIFT OF GOD'S LOVE. Desire it, practice it, preserve it.

Brother Len Wertz

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

November 1, 1926

### PHYSICAL DEATH VS. SPIRITUAL DEATH

H. E. Miller

Let us go back to the children of Israel in their wanderings and notice God's instructions to them through Moses their leader. About the time of preparation for the entry of the promised land, where they would come in contact and be among other nations, notice God's warnings, instructions and so forth.

In Deut. 13:1-18 inclusive He tells them there will arise false prophets and dreamers to deceive them, and even though their prophecy of a sign or wonder come to pass, they should not be deceived, for He would allow those things to come to pass to prove to them, whether or not they loved the Lord, verse 3.

Now notice that the one who prophesies falsely is to be put to death, because he has openly tried to turn the people away from

the Lord. Again notice in verse 6, if one close to ones self in blood or marriage come to one secretly and try to turn him to the worldly ways and against the Lord, namely to the gods of the people, gods that thou hast not known, to take up the ways of the other nations, thou shalt not spare him but kill him, and all the people are to help stone him. This may seem rather severe, but God had warned them continually and told them what the penalty would be, and as he cannot lie it must be fulfilled. He many times stresses in Deuteronomy alone, "Keep all my commandments." Again in Deut. 12:29-30 to follow not after other doctrines. He said Thou shalt not learn to do after their ways. Deut. 10:17, "For the Lord your God is God of gods, and Lord of lords, a great God, a mighty, and a terrible, which regardeth not persons, nor taketh reward." We are made to wonder if some are not trying to bribe God in this day. Remember some tried to buy the power of the Holy Spirit. Read some of the references on what is to become of false prophets. (I Kings 22:11, Jer. 29:21, Isaiah 9:15, Jer. 23:34, 28:16, 29:32, Ezk. 13:3, 14:9, Jer. 6:14). They can heal slightly.

As we have touched lightly on the physical death which came in olden times because of faithlessness and disobedience to God, let us turn briefly to the spiritual side. First the sad part is, that those who die spiritually cannot be buried and put away where they will not pollute the pure. And Christ said that one who has tasted of the good things of God and die spiritually could not possibly be resurrected from that state to which he has fallen.

Now I have been made to think if we would do as commanded, and in comparison with Deut. 13:6-17 where they ejected the false ones from among them, if we would put away the false leaders, prophets, and body friends, who continually try to get us to go after other methods, other denominational plans, and take in worldly ways, such as pianos, orchestras, jewelry, bobbed hair, and what not, and to disregard the kiss, prayer veil, and many other doctrines, and put them from among us with all their substance, the Holy Spirit could then use us to win souls to Christ. But as with Joshua while there is sin in the camp we can not prosper. (Rev. 22:19, Deut. 4:2, 12:32, 13:18, Josh. 1:7, Prov. 30:6). The foregoing are a few of the references where we are warned not to add to or take away from God's word.

Now let us turn to a few references about the false prophets, and leaders as mentioned in the New Testament. (Matt. 7:15, 24:11, II Pet. 2:1, I John 4:1). Let us therefore study to show ourselves approved unto God, workmen that need not be ashamed, rightly dividing the word of truth, neither adding to or taking away. Let us take God at His word is my prayer.

## THE PLAN OF THE MASTER WEAVER

My life is but a weaving,  
Between the Lord and me,  
I may not choose the colors,  
He knows what they should be,  
For he can view the pattern,  
Upon the upper side,  
While I can see it only,  
On this the under side.  
Some times He weaveth sorrow,  
Which seemeth strange to me,  
But I will trust His judgment,  
And work on faithfully.  
Tis He who fills the shuttle,  
And He knows what is best,  
So I shall weave in earnest,  
Leaving to Him the rest.  
Not till the loom is silent,  
And the shuttles cease to fly,  
Shall God unroll the canvas  
And explain the reason why  
The dark threads are so needed  
In the weaver's skillful hand  
As the threads of gold and silver  
In the pattern He has planned.

Selected by Sister Susanna B. Johns

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

Hearing the Word

J. H. Moore

Paul, in Rom. 10:14, already cited in part, reasons thus: "How then shall they call on him in whom they have not believed? and how shall they believe in him of whom they have not heard? and how shall they hear without a preacher? Without preaching there is no hearing, without hearing there is no believing, and without believing there can be no salvation. Hearing is one of the essential acts in conversion. Jesus says: "Whosoever heareth these sayings of mine, and doeth them, I will liken him unto a wise man, which built his house upon a rock." (Matt. 7:24) In this instance the Master adds doing to hearing as one of the necessary elements in making the spiritual life a success. There are those who hear, and yet they hear not, for the reason that they do not receive, into

honest and good hearts, the truths that are presented to them.

Explaining the parable of the sower, who sowed good seed on different kinds of ground, Jesus says: "The seed is the word of God." (Luke 8:11) The man who preaches the Gospel is sowing the seed of the kingdom, the Word of God, in the hearts of the children of men. To receive this Word into honest hearts, is to both hear and heed that which is taught. It then becomes a matter of both hearing and obeying. Or, as James puts it, "receive with meekness the engrafted word, which is able to save your souls." (James 1:21) He then adds: "But be ye doers of the word, and not hearers only." (verse 22) In verse eighteen he says we have been begotten "with the word of truth." It will thus be observed that the Word of Truth, which is the "sword of the Spirit" (Eph. 6:17), is an indispensable factor in the process of conversion.



#### Assorted Poems and Proverbs Selected by Brother Lynn Miller

As the man lives, so will he die;  
As the tree falls, so will it lie;  
As the man dies, so must he be  
Throughout a whole eternity.  
  
As the mother, such the daughter;  
Look to this before you court her.  
As the old birds sing, the young birds twitter.  
As the old cock crows, the young cock learns.  
  
To fix a good or evil course,  
Example is of potent force;  
And they who wish the young to teach  
Must practice ever what they preach.

A white glove often hides a dirty hand.

Advice when most needed is least heeded.

Always drinking, always dry.

All death is sudden to the unprepared.

A new heart better suits Sunday than a new suit.

Cackling is not laying and promising is not paying.

**NEWS ITEMS****THANK YOU**

We want to say thanks to each and every one for your prayers, cards, telephone calls and concerns during our illnesses. Though we have improved we are still at Manor Care Nursing Home.

Brother and Sister Paul R. Myers

**IN APPRECIATION**

I wish to thank all for prayers, visits, get-well cards and kindnesses shown to me during my stay in the York Hospital and since my return home. May the Lord bless you all.

In Christian love,  
Sister Grace Surbey

**THANK YOU**

Dear Brothers and Sisters,

I feel I must write and tell you how I appreciate and many thanks for your cards and gifts that I received for my 80th birthday. There were so many I thought it best to have it put in the Monitor instead of writing to each one. I wish the Lord's blessing on each one of you.

I need your prayers. To the ones I learned to love and worship with.

Christian love,  
Sister Myrtle Bittinger

**ANNOUNCEMENT**

Sis. Irene Stout of Wabash, Indiana, whose poems have appeared in the Bible Monitor, has collected a number of poems on the subject of prayer into a booklet. This booklet is entitled "Tree of Life - Poems and Prayers." This booklet is especially designed for the elderly and weak, although the poems are beneficial for all. The booklets are priced at \$1.95 (postpaid). Any profits from the sale of these booklets will be given to the Church.

Booklets may be obtained from the Editor:

Milton Cook  
1138 E. 12th Street  
Beaumont, CA 92223

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(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

NOVEMBER 15, 1986

NO. 22

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## THE HALF WAS NEVER TOLD

Repeat the story o'er and o'er,  
Of grace so full and free;  
I love to hear it more and more,  
Since grace has rescued me.

Of peace I only knew the name,  
Nor found my soul its rest,  
Until the sweet voiced angel came  
To soothe my weary breast.

My highest place is lying low  
At my Redeemer's feet;  
No real joy in life I know  
But in His service sweet.

And oh, what rapture will it be  
With all the host above,  
To sing thro' all eternity  
The wonders of His love.

- P. P. Bliss

## GIVING THANKS

Saying "thank you" is easy. Saying "thank you" and meaning it is harder. Little children are taught and often reminded to say, "thank you." Yet many adults seldom use those words. "Thank you" may be spoken so easily and without much feeling. At other times when the heart is truly full of thanksgiving it seems these words fail to convey all that is in the heart. Just saying, "thank you", may seem so hollow and so small when we realize how much we have to be thankful for.

Our "thank yous" are usually associated with a list of material blessings we have enjoyed. It may be food, clothing or shelter that elicits our thankfulness. Certainly, we must be thankful for all these blessings, especially in a world where most do not have them. It would be the height of unthankfulness to sit down to our abundant, perhaps over abundant, meals without giving thanks. In a land so richly blessed with these temporal blessings we see so few who will even pause a moment to express their thanks to the God who has provided these good things. In a land where we can have the finest, warmest and most durable clothing, we find little thanks expressed for them. Instead we see a desire to put on as few clothes, as possible, which are designed and worn with the idea of attracting lustful attention rather than providing for the warmth, comfort and modest protection of the body. The shelters we have today are the envy of the world. Yet we think little of what we possess. In fact, our thoughts more often tend to be towards our unhappiness with what we have and a desire for something more commodious or more luxurious. Very seldom do we really

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

NOVEMBER 15, 1986

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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thank God for our housing, yet which of us would be content in a shack or cardboard hut? We often express in word our thanks for these necessities of life but how serious are we about this in our hearts?

Beyond the necessary material blessings of life are the freedoms we enjoy under our national situation. There are freedoms here that are unknown in most countries. The majority of the world's population lives under dictatorships of one type or another. While Christians can live under any type of government, obviously there is less persecution and hardship under the freedoms we know. We should be thankful that we can worship as we wish, when we wish, without pressure from the government. Nor are we compelled to support by our taxes a state religion. None are required either to join or abstain from joining any religious group. Here each can make the choice he wishes to. This is, after all, the message of the Bible that God's Grace has provided a plan of salvation available to all who will choose to accept it and follow it. Our national blessings should be a part of our thanksgiving.

Christians, however, have more than temporal and national blessings to be thankful for. More importantly, whether enjoying these physical and national blessings or not, the Christian can be thankful that there is a God above all who cares for them and has provided for them eternal life through the gift of His Own Son. Without the hope of an improved eternity the problems of this life would drive men beyond what they could bear. But with the hope of Heaven men can bear what this life has to offer.

God's gift makes it possible for men to be at peace with God. God gave the gift that would change men from being enemies to being adopted children of God. Men could not do this themselves, only God could furnish the means of reconciliation. Yet how lightly this plan of salvation is often spoken of. It is cheapened by men's ideas of what is required by God. The "faith only" and "eternal security" doctrines designed by men cause God's plan to be cheapened and disregarded. It is the place of men to accept what He has ordained and to follow it. Rather than invent new programs, men should be thankful God has provided a program that will meet His requirements. Thankfulness, not rebellion, is man's true duty.

Thankfulness should extend to our families and friends. Without these associations along the way, life would be dull and unrewarding. For our families we should be thankful, for we have been placed within that unit by God's wisdom. Even if our relationship within our natural family is not all that pleasant, we can be thankful for the relationships we can have within our Spiritual family. We should be thankful for the fellowship, good will and

encouragement that we receive from our Spiritual family.

There is so much for all of us to be thankful for. There is even more for the Christian to be thankful for. Are you giving thanks?

## AN EMPTY TORTILLA

Last year on the day before Thanksgiving, a Mexican lady came to the door. She needed to use the telephone as her car had a flat tire and no spare. While she waited for help to come, we visited. She told me quite a bit about her family and how they came to live in this area. She also related to me about her only visit to Mexico. She had been born in Texas.

As she discussed their meals and the difference between the United States and Old Mexico, she said she didn't like their food. She liked meat in her tortilla, and in Mexico there was none. Where her family visited, they were too poor to buy meat, so they ate their tortillas plain. Anyone who has ever eaten a taco or any other Mexican-style sandwich can understand why she did not like an empty tortilla. The round flat, bread-like shell is rather tasteless.

Most of us, whether it is at Thanksgiving time or some other time, sit down to a table filled with food three times a day. We have enough to eat, and then some, whether it's of meat or other food. We don't eat empty tortillas unless it's by choice. We don't have to wonder if there'll be food for another meal because we live in a land of plenty. Truly we are blessed.

Because we are human, we don't always count the blessings we have, but we should. There is poverty in this world which we can't comprehend on one hand, and the lavish life-style of the wealthy on the other. Somewhere between the two is where most of us live and we can only say God is good to us. It should increase our appreciation of how God has blessed us when we see those who have less. We should also realize that it might not be a blessing for us to have more than we do!

"Offer unto God thanksgiving: and pay thy vows unto the most High." Psa. 50:14. Whatever we have to enjoy in this life — our families, friends, our homes and so forth — our first thought should be to thank God. Because of Him, we are blessed. Because of Him, we have food on the table. Because of His mercy, we can be saved from our sins. There is every reason to thank God for His care, and no excuse to be ungrateful.

Jonah said, "But I will sacrifice unto thee with the voice of thanksgiving." Jon. 2:9. Jonah had some things to get straightened out with God, and he started with being thankful. Inside the great fish, he didn't even have an empty tortilla, and he no doubt was

glad to be alive now. He knew God had delivered him. We too need to realize what God has done for us, and to be thankful unto Him. This means to act thankful as well as to say as much.

"Giving thanks always for all things unto God and the Father in the name of our Lord Jesus Christ." Eph. 5:20. Christ must be a part of our thanksgiving. It is because of Him that God accepts us and our thanks. Christ makes the communication complete. When we believe in Him and give Him first place in our lives, then we are able to give thanks properly, for it will come from our hearts.

"Be careful for nothing; but in every thing by prayer and supplication with thanksgiving let your requests be made known unto God." Phil. 4:6. Thanksgiving should be a part of all we do, from day-to-day living to times of worship. Even if we find ourselves with an empty tortilla to eat, or if life is empty in other ways, we still should be thankful, for God's care and for His love.

Frequently we ask God for more when we should first thank Him for what we already have. An empty tortilla is better than nothing to eat. A modest income is better than poverty. Consider what you have and really count your blessings. Then thank God. "Blessed be the Lord, who daily loadeth us with benefits, even the God of our salvation." Psa. 68:19.

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### "Meditations for Thanksgiving"

We have all grown up in an irreverant and unthankful society. God continues to shower down blessings upon us and touches us with all of the beautiful things of life and we express so little thanks for them.

For God's daily provision of food... are you really thankful? God's name is actually hallowed in His giving of this sustenance. It is His love on display. If you could touch and smell the horror of starvation as I saw it in Africa, your outlook on the simple blessing of food would be totally different.

Food is at the base of our existence. We are required to work and sweat to provide it. This action, of course, comes from the sin of mankind in the Garden. (Genesis 3:19)

I believe that our perfect example, Jesus, was well aware of work. He laboured in His earthly father's carpenter shop as a young man. They used acacia timber around Galilee and it was extremely heavy. Crafting it into cattle yokes, plows, tables and the like was a great task... and a task necessary to buy bread for their family.

With Christ all things are plenteous... and certainly this has been

true in the area of the multiplicity of foods that are available for our enjoyment in America. The tragedy is that in the face of God's generosity, people have become wasteful. And I am not talking about worldly families. I am talking about Christian families. I would challenge you to be a good steward of the blessing of food even as you are of other things God gives you. Another Christian chided me recently with the statement that Christians can't do much but eat so they do that very well. See the inconsistency involved here?

Fresh baked bread... the aroma is captivating. To make it the grain must be broken, salt, water and yeast is added, then it is kneaded, shaped and allowed to rise. It is baked to a golden brown... and in a real sense, we see a picture here of a new life. Our Saviour became, as it were, God's grain. He was broken at Calvary, He experienced the cross, grave and death and came forth the RISEN and resurrected Saviour. Thus, we understand Him as being the "bread of life." Jesus, in His resurrected form was much different than His original mortal form. So the bread we eat is much different from the uncracked wheat from which it originally came. Are you planning to feast, this Thanksgiving, on this food as much as the physical food?

Carrying this thought further, if we are nourished properly each day, we grow physically... our cells reproduce properly and we function normally. We do not remain the same. So it is when we feed on the Bread of Life... Christ. We should grow and never be the same person that we were before. A positive "Christ-likeness" should become a part of us. Our actions should become like His, our thoughts as His, and so forth. We will exhibit peace and contentment. We will become more compassionate and forgiving. We will live our lives out of a motive of love. We will ultimately mature and find ourselves less and less preoccupied with the secular world.

We have all heard the old adage, "You are what you eat!" If you feed on junk food, you will be unhealthy physically. If you feed on Satan's junk in this world, you will also be spiritually unhealthy.

Could it be that those who have never experienced a real need... have also never had to cry out to God for help. Affluence seems to make us feel "self-sustained"... in other words, "I earned that food myself," "I made my own shelter," and so forth. Wrong. These are God's gifts. Genesis 1:29-31 says, "Behold I have given you every herb bearing seed..."

Just think of the variety of food in your diet. God gives it. What if He had designed for us to eat mud... mud for breakfast, mud for lunch and mud for supper. How mundane that would be. Do we

have reason for THANKSGIVING? I mean, really thanking Him... not just rattling off a rote prayer as if it was just a duty or a habit. We should be thrilled at the creative hand of God in His production. Trust in God for it... give thanks each time you enjoy it.

Meditate on these thoughts. Even though you clutch your blanket and growl when the alarm rings in the morning, THANK GOD... that you can see because many are blind. Even if you huddle in your bed and put off getting up, THANK GOD that you have the strength to rise because many people are bedfast.

When the first part of your day seems especially hectic... the socks are lost, the toast is burned and tempers are short... THANK GOD... for your family because there are many who are lonely.

EVEN THOUGH YOUR BREAKFAST TABLE MIGHT NOT LOOK LIKE THOSE IN A LADIES' MAGAZINE AND THE MENU IS SOMETIMES A LITTLE UNBALANCED, THANK GOD FOR THE FOOD YOU HAVE... because many are hungry. Your job monotonous? THANK GOD YOU HAVE ONE as many are out of work. THANK GOD FOR THE GIFT OF LIFE. Thank you!

Brother Len Wertz

## **TRUE THANKSGIVING TO THE LORD**

Many years ago, far from the American shores, people were hindered from religious liberty and freedom, so they decided to come here. Through their coming a country of freedom and religious liberty was established here. They were brave, courageous and God fearing people who decided to take such a journey. The risk was much greater at that time than it is today.

When they arrived here, their first experience was great hardship. They lacked proper food and shelter for the cold winter. Many of their number died. Those who survived, when spring came, labored in preparing the soil and planting the seeds. Through their labor and sunshine and rain they were blessed with a bountiful harvest. Through their thankful hearts, a special day was proclaimed for thanksgiving, which has continued through the ages and into our time.

Are we thankful that we are blessed with the freedom of religion, that we can worship the Lord according to the saving Gospel unhindered and unmolested? We should be thankful for all the blessings of the Lord, always. Thanksgiving is a daily necessity of life and is a part of all true Christians' lives.

When Christ was here on earth He gave thanks to our Heavenly Father for His blessings. Also servants of the Lord did thank and praise Him. Today we are blessed with many things that make life easier and more comfortable that our foreparents who lived here

many years ago did not have. Are we thankful? Do we appreciate them? Things that have made life easier and more comfortable have not contributed to Christian living as many professing Christians have turned away from the high standard of morality that our faithful foreparents had.

Those who are engaged in the wicked and sinful ways of life are contributing to the downfall of our nation. We cannot live a sinful and wicked life and be thankful to the Lord. When Jesus was here on earth He said some honor Him with their lives but their hearts were far from Him. Actions speak louder than words. Faith without works is dead. By their fruits ye shall know them. We cannot serve two masters.

If we have faithfully devoted our life to the Lord, we can enter into His gates with thanksgiving and into His courts with praise and be thankful for the bountiful blessings he is extending to us. The greatest of all the blessings of God is the plan of salvation to the glorious reward.

Through thanksgiving we should let our requests be known unto the Lord. Does our life show to others we appreciate and are thankful for all the bountiful blessings we are permitted to enjoy? Praise the Lord O my soul and forget not all his benefits. The Psalmist David's life was filled with thanksgiving and praise to God. When Christ was here on earth He gave the example of thanksgiving.

Let us not be among those who profess Godliness and in works deny Him. The Psalmist David said Oh that men give thanks unto the Lord for He is good and His mercy endureth forever and would praise the Lord for His goodness and for His wonderful works to the children of men. Do we realize by ourselves we can do nothing and our future depends upon the Lord? Our nation was established by God fearing people who have made this nation great. Now, we have not the high standard of morality existing among the leaders of our nation. Forgetting God and turning to sin and wickedness, we cannot have His protection from the rulers of darkness of this world. Back in the time of the Apostles some professed to be wise and became fools because when they knew God they glorified Him not neither were thankful but became vain in their imaginations and their foolish hearts were darkened.

To the true Christian, thanksgiving to the Lord is every day continued in prayer and watch in the same with thanksgiving. Let us not be among those in the day of judgment who will hear the voice, "Depart from me ye workers of iniquity, I never knew you." Let this mind be in you that was also in Christ Jesus. Thanksgiving, praise and honour be unto our God.

We should have a prayerful mind at all times. Pray without ceasing. We should not only profess to be Christians we should possess the Christian life in this world that some day the blessings of eternity will be ours. Have we made thanksgiving to the Lord a reality in our lives? Thanks be to God who gives us the victory through our Lord Jesus Christ.

Brother J. F. Marks  
804 W. Sundial Loop  
Plant City, FL 33566

## ANGEL VOICES, EVER SINGING

Angel voices, ever singing  
Round Thy throne of light;  
Angel harps, forever ringing,  
Rest not day nor night.  
Thousands only live to bless Thee,  
And confess Thee, Lord of might.

Thou, who art beyond the farthest  
Mental eye can scan,  
Can it be that Thou regardest  
Songs of sinful man?  
Can we feel that Thou art near us,  
And wilt hear us? Yea, we can.

Hear, great God, today we offer  
Of Thine own to Thee;  
And for Thine acceptance proffer,  
All unworthily,  
Hearts and minds, and hands and voices,  
In our choicest Melody.

Honor, glory, might, and merit,  
Thine shall ever be,  
Father, Son and Holy Spirit,  
Blessed Trinity!  
Of the best that Thou hast given  
Earth and heaven Render Thee.

- Francis Pott



Christ sends none away empty but those who are full of themselves.

## NO GREATER PROMISE

No greater promise was ever given  
Than, that we can have a Home in Heaven,  
O, precious promise, O, glorious love,  
Not a thing on earth can match that above.

But we must believe that God gave His Son —  
His atoning blood was shed for each one;  
Christ compares Himself to “a living vine,”  
We can be “branches” bearing fruit sublime...

Abiding in Him, obeying His Word,  
Practicing precepts for Heaven’s record,  
We’ll claim His promise, live a life that’s true —  
Then with Christ, our King, His city we’ll view.

Praise God for sending His beloved Son to earth. Praise Him for His promises!

NO GREATER PROMISE! What do promises mean to you? Are they sure, as His are sure?

Not long ago I walked into the lounge of a hospital. There were several people there; it was raining and the sun was shining. I said, “There should be a rainbow. Has anyone ever seen a double rainbow?” No one had, and since there were large windows to the North and to the East, I and a young couple started for the windows. The young lady said, “Oh, look, there it is, isn’t it pretty?” I looked at it, then above it, and said, “Look, there is another one above it, not as bright though.” The others in the waiting area all came to the windows to look. Then the young lady said, “I wonder why there are rainbows when the sun is shining and it is still raining?” I answered, “It is God’s promise to the people He will never again destroy the earth with flood waters, — some day He will destroy it with fire though.” All was quiet, not a person spoke, so I slowly walked away — wondering how many people in this “country of plenty” don’t know the meaning of God’s bow in the sky? Sad to think there may be a multitude.

God promises a Home with Him in heaven, through Christ, our Redeemer, of sins who shed His precious blood as an atonement for our sins. But we must believe and have faith in Him. Be converted and repent, showing our belief by submitting to His precepts. The first is being born again, a new creature, through baptism, in water, as Jesus was by John. (Covered with water as a baby is before it is born.) We are babes in Christ, the Holy Spirit descends upon us, opening our eyes to the true meaning of His Word and to lead and guide us in living a righteous life. Praise

Father, Son and Holy Ghost! The God-head, these three, they are One, and agree as One. This baptism recognizes each by being baptized, covered with water, three times FORWARD in the likeness of Christ's death on the cross, His head going forward, not backward.

It takes "good old common sense" and the "wisdom of God", given to His servants to clarify some of these Bible truths unto man, for some are yet "blind" to parts of His Word. The hymn writer wrote, "I once was lost but now am found, Was blind, but now I see." (Amazing Grace)

There is a work for us to do. Jesus DID NOT DO IT ALL SO WE COULD SIT BACK AND DO NOTHING. Read Matt. 20:1-10. Everyone is given "gifts" or "talents" to be put to use, and multiply, not just bury them. We lay up our treasures in Heaven when we build on that SURE FOUNDATION, Christ. He always stays firm and His Word NEVER changes.

Marriage needs to start out on a foundation that is "firm" and then "grow" as Christ is the Vine and His children are the "branches" (John 15:1-14) we are expected to produce GOOD FRUIT to His name's honor and glory. If we DON'T bear good fruit we will be "cut off", thrown away and burnt. Through sin a branch can get "broken" or "cut off". All have faults and shortcomings, but praise the Lord, we have Christ as our Intercessor and Advocate with God, and in sorrow we can confess our sins and ask forgiveness and we have the promise we will be forgiven.

Our Great Shepherd forces no one to follow Him, but His "sheep" WANT to follow. No one "drives them." His drawing power will not come to us if we don't want to be "drawn." Yet, He will stand and knock, if we let Him in He will give us that peace that passeth all understanding. We have no desire to follow the ways of the world. We want to please Him and be partakers of His Great Promise of a Home in Heaven.

Written with love of souls and humbleness of Spirit.

Sister Irene Stout  
R. 1 Box 160  
Wabash, IN 46992

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

November 15, 1926

TRUTH AS GLEANED FROM CHARACTER STUDY

I. J. Rosenberger

The Bible abounds in personal representatives for each Christian grace, and these men and women, then as now, typify the line of

the grace most prominent in their make-up. Ministers teach on this line. When we wish to hold up the ideal of physical strength, we point to Samson. In dwelling upon the necessity of patience we, like James, remind men of "the patience of Job."

Women in the Bible have been most illustrious examples along the same line. For moral courage, exercised in behalf of others, we point to Esther. For genuine devotion we direct attention to Anna the prophetess. In holding up, looking at, and admiring their traits of character we naturally imbibe at least some of their characteristics and become more and more like them. The same is true of men, as types or representatives of evil. We cannot speak of Herod without a shudder, thinking of his cruelty. The name Jezebel at once pictures in the mind a life of wickedness.

There are two women named in the Scriptures, wholly dissimilar, to which I invite attention.

1. The first of these is found in Rev. 17:3-4 and is described thus: "I saw a woman sit upon a scarlet colored beast... And the woman was arrayed in purple and scarlet color, and decked with gold and precious stones, and pearls, having a golden cup in her hand full of abominations and filthiness of her fornication." Women is a common symbol in the Scriptures, representing the church true or false. As a woman, a mother brings forth, and so does a body, the church, true or false, bring forth and increase. The woman in my text quoted symbolizes the apostate church, deceptive Christianity. Notice the points as she is described:

(1) She was on "a beast," symbolizing her activity and equipment in disseminating her corrupt doctrine. Christ speaks of this class as "compassing sea and land to make one proselyte, and when he is made ye make him two fold more the child of hell than yourselves." Evil workers have always been noted for their zeal and success. They are not pedestrians. They ride, which implies speed. What glaring reports they give of their success, because they are riding.

(2) "She was arrayed in purple and scarlet color." These imply their rank. Apostate Christianity has a control in state, as presidents, governors, and so forth. At their rallies and parades are to be seen "their purple and scarlet color," in plumes, sashes and flags, worn by those of high rank. These are often on exhibit in their halls of worship.

(3) She was "decked with gold, and precious stones and pearls." In this apostate church there is no restraint in decking and ornamenting the body. The reader is perfectly familiar with these sinful ornate-ments worn by apostate professors.

(4) "Having a golden cup in her hand." This "cup in her hand" implies invitation — to induce and entice them with their vile

associations. This symbolizes the appeal held out today, to join and partake of the entertainments, amusements and festivities of apostate religion. They have no power for good, as they cultivate no grace, but are a sure index that they are "lovers of pleasure more than lovers of God."

(5) This woman is charged with the grave sin of spiritual fornication and whoredom, sins exceedingly offensive and ruinous.

These, to a very large extend pass unnoticed today. Even the church lacks in watchfulness along these lines, unmindful of the woeful fact that "He that is joined to a harlot is one body." James warns us thus: "Ye adulterers and adulteresses, know ye not that the friendship of the world is enmity with God?" The people of Israel were accused of harlotry in their affiliations with the corrupt religious of the land. This same sin is incurred today by affiliating with corrupt doctrines, those who preach a fragmentary Gospel. John says, "If there come any unto you, and bring not this doctrine, receive him not into your house, neither bid him God speed: For he that biddeth him God speed, is a partaker of his evil deeds." This spiritual adultery and fornication is extant, yes, rampant in the religious world today; and it will all be met in that final great day.

2. The second woman to which we call attention is found in Rev. 19, and is thus described: "Let us be glad and rejoice and give honor to him, for the marriage of the Lamb is come, and his wife hath made herself ready. And to her was granted that she should be arrayed in fine linen, clean and white, for the fine linen is the righteousness of saints." Paul, in speaking of this woman, calls her, "The glorious church, not having spot or wrinkle or any such thing."

I invite the reader to go with me and gaze at this typical Christian woman, as outlined in the Bible, and as the Church of the Brethren has steadily held up for over two hundred years. The former was arrayed in purple, scarlet and gold, but Peter thus describes the adorning of this latter: "Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel; but let it be the hidden man of the heart." Why this negative teaching? Because the Spirit knew that the trend of mankind was to follow the apostate traits of woman number one. Hence, by way of emphasis, the Spirit bids us to not do so. How fully does woman number two follow Peter's biding: "Whose adorning let it not be that outward adorning of plaiting the hair, and of wearing of gold, or of putting on of apparel." Let it be noticed, also, that number one did not start so badly, but she soon got into the dark alleys of gross crimes. We are told: "Evil men wax worse and worse."

It is a painful truth that persons who disregard Gospel restraint in their attire soon get out on the commons, where they indulge in any measure of sin and wrong doing without any remorse. They, "being past feeling have given themselves over to lasciviousness, to work all uncleanness with greediness."

Dear reader, let me inquire: "To which of the foregoing women are you bending? To whom are your steps, your influence trending?" These, in time, will serve as an index, a prophecy of your portentous future.

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

### Faith, What It Is, And What It Does

In a cold, stiff way faith is defined as the belief of testimony, or the confidence placed in testimony. It is understood, of course, that in the New Testament the terms "faith," "belief" and "believing" refer to the same thing. Faith means belief, and belief means faith. Paul would define faith as being "the substance" or ground "of things hoped for, the evidence of things not seen." (Heb. 11:1) This is philosophy, and is as good a definition as could be given, but it is not so easily understood. We view the subject from another angle. Faith is an indefinable quality of the mind and soul, — one that prompts action and causes people to do things. Faith is something that comes. Paul in Romans 10:17, says it comes by hearing the Word of God. It is a product, — produced by the Word. Not only so, but men believe with the heart. It is, then, a heart work. Or, to make it a little plainer, faith is the product of the Word of God in the heart.

The Word enters the heart by hearing. It may also enter by reading. We are told that the Lord opened Lydia's heart, and that "she attended unto the things which were spoken of Paul." (Acts 16:14) Her heart was opened by the Word, which is declared to be "the sword of the Spirit." (Eph. 6:17) It is the instrument the Spirit employs to teach the heart. When the heart is once reached with the Word of God, accompanied by the influence of the Spirit, we have faith.

Faith is that indefinable something that produces action. Men who have faith, act. They will do something, — something that is prompted by faith. It is this condition of the mind that made Abraham willing to offer his son Isaac as a burnt offering. It led Noah to build the ark, and also made it possible for the three Hebrew children to pass through the fiery furnace. It is the something that prompts the best people in the world to do things.

It is the great influence in the heart that leads to repentance and obedience. The 3,000 converts on the Day of Pentecost had faith, and that is why they so readily consented to do what Peter required of them. It was this believing with the heart that led to every instance of obedience and faithfulness mentioned in the Scriptures. Men and women who have faith, obey. They show their faith by their actions. And so James proposed to show his faith by his works (James 2:18). There is no other way of showing or demonstrating faith.

We judge of faith like we judge of love. People who love, show their love by kind acts, and in the absence of some manifestations of love, we logically conclude that there is also an absence of love. In cold terms, we may measurably define love, but there is no definition so easily understood, by both the learned and the unlearned, as loving deeds. There is no question about the loving disposition of people who abound in good works. What they do is accepted the world over as proof of their love.

Just so with faith. Some people may not understand the definition of faith, as given in dictionaries; they may not understand Paul's philosophical method of defining faith, but they never fail to understand the manifestations of faith. When they see the 3,000 converts doing what Peter told them to do, they fully comprehend that kind of a definition. The most ignorant of men and women can understand definitions of this character. And, in fact, there is no way of defining faith so clearly as by reducing it to acts. Show faith by acts, and the question is settled. Demonstrate faith by works, and that will be the end of all controversy. No man questions the existence of faith where the evidence is given in the acts for which faith calls, but in the absence of such evidence it is but natural that we should look for the absence of faith, and say that without works there can be no faith. One might as logically look for love where there are no tokens of love, as to look for faith in the absence of the acts that demonstrate faith.

## NEWS ITEM

### THANK YOU

"Thank you" to my dear Brothers and Sisters and friends for your many acts of kindness and concern for me while I was sick.

We never know what a day holds, but with God, and the love and care of a church family, we can make it through the roughest times. God bless each of you who helped to bear my burden!

Yours in Christ,  
Sister Karen Myers

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR DECEMBER 1986

December 7 - The Lord Is My Helper - Hebrews 13:1-13.

1. The first five verses tell of the social duties of a Christian.
2. We may be called upon to suffer for Him here in this life. Verse 13.

December 14 - Looking For A City - Hebrews 13:14-25.

1. In looking for this City, it is important to close our eyes to this world.
2. Needful to be loyal to Christian leaders.

December 21 - The Birth of Christ - Luke 2:1-20.

1. Who were the messengers who revealed the good news?
2. Why was the message so important?

December 28 - Pure Religion - James 1:1-27.

1. What difference is there between a hearer and a doer?
2. What does James say are the marks of a Christian?

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR DECEMBER 1986

December 7 - Our Duty - Romans 12:1-21.

1. What are the marks of a Christian?
2. In verse 21 how do we overcome evil?

December 14 - True Safety - Psalms 91:1-16, Proverbs 3:21-26.

1. Who will abide in true safety? Psalms 91:1.
2. What is promised in Psalms 91:16.

December 21 - Birth of Christ - Matt. 1:18-25, Matt. 2:1-11.

1. What was the mission for which Jesus came to this world?
2. What were Herod's thoughts concerning the birth of Christ?

December 28 - Divinity of Christ - Luke 22:69-70, John 10:1-42.

1. What testimony did Jesus give in Luke 22:69 concerning His divinity?
2. What great promise is given in John 10:28 concerning His sheep?

(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

DECEMBER 1, 1986

NO. 23

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## FIGHT THE GOOD FIGHT

Fight the good fight with all thy might,  
Christ is thy strength, and Christ thy right;  
Lay hold on life, and it shall be  
Thy joy and crown eternally.

Run the straight race thru God's good grace,  
Lift up thine eyes, and seek His face;  
Life with its way before us lies,  
Christ is the path, and Christ the prize.

Cast care aside, lean on thy Guide;  
His boundless mercy will provide;  
Trust, and thy trusting soul shall prove  
Christ is its life, and Christ its love.

Faint not, nor fear, His arms are near;  
He changeth not, and thou art dear;  
Only believe, and thou shalt see  
That Christ is all in all to thee.

- John S. B. Monsell

## CONFIDENCE

"Cast not away therefore your confidence, which hath great recompense of reward." Heb. 10:35. There is a high value placed upon confidence in this verse. Since it is so important, we must learn about it.

Confidence can take many forms and have many objects. Confidence is a near kin to faith. Whoever or whatever we have confidence in, we trust or believe. Sometimes we misplace our confidence in men, policies or organizations. It is a rude awakening for us when this happens. So we must be careful where we place our confidence.

There is a certain degree of self-confidence needed by each one. Each needs to realize that because humans are created not evolved, they have a special standing before God. God has given each one certain talents or gifts, which vary from person to person. It is helpful to realize that each one may be given more or fewer talents as God wills. One may have one talent and another, five. If the one more highly favored does not use what is his, the person with one talent may well accomplish more with his limited abilities.

There is a constant danger that a person may have too much confidence in his own talents or understanding. When that happens, he quits depending upon God and depends only on himself. God does want His people to have enough confidence to do what He calls them to do, knowing that He has equipped them or else He would not call them.

Fellow believers need to have confidence in each other. Without each other, the Christian walk of life would be not only lonely but

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

DECEMBER 1, 1986

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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impossible. The ordinances of the Church are designed to require participation by at least two and preferably more. The holy salutation, baptism, feet washing, the Lord's Supper, the communion and most other activities in the Church involve more than one person. To carry on these ordinances and to accomplish the other work of the Church there must be a bond of confidence and love between the members.

While there is a need of confidence among the various members, there is a special need of confidence between the official Brethren and the laity. With a democratic system of choosing the Church's leaders, the laity has a voice in their selection and advancement. Only they have been chosen, there is a special need for their encouragement and improvement. For their labors to bear the hoped-for fruit there must be a special bond of confidence, so the members will uphold and respect the officials and at the same time the officials will study, counsel and feed the members so they will earn that respect. With this bond of confidence existing between the members, there may still be situations where there will be a need for reproof and rebuke. With confidence in place, this can be handled without the shepherds appearing to club the sheep nor the sheep trying to scheme their way around the shepherds.

Of course our greatest confidence must be reserved for God. Our confidence in ourselves or our fellow believer may prove to be misplaced. Our confidence in God will never be misplaced. Our confidence must be so strong that what would seemingly disprove our confidence, won't. What seems against our desire or best interest, we must have the confidence to accept as being the best.

We can place our confidence in many people, objects or groups, but the confidence we have in God has the greatest value because it will bring us a reward above any this earth has to offer. If we have confidence enough in God to endure afflictions and troubles we will be able to have a place with God in Heaven.

We often become impatient in our Christian life. It seems that things are not going our way, although we have tried our best to live a Christian life. We meet so many obstacles that we have a tendency to give up. We perhaps even question God and His will for our lives. Our confidence needs to be strong enough that we not grow impatient. We forget that what seems a long time with us is not so long in God's way of reckoning time. As we grow impatient in waiting, God is moving on His own time schedule. There will come the time when the Earth and earthly things will be of no value to us, but the reward of our confidence, if firmly held to the end will be appreciated for its great value. What seems long and hard here and now will in retrospect appear short and worthwhile.

Are you confident? What in? Let it be God and His Word for that confidence has a great recompense of reward.

## A BALANCED LIFE

A teenager jokingly said her idea of a balanced diet is a carton of soft drink in one hand and a package of Twinkies (snack cakes) in the other. Our common sense tells us that such a diet would be anything but balanced. It might satisfy one's sweet tooth, but would soon result in a very unhealthy body. It takes a variety of foods and good nutrition to produce good health. Good health is evidence that our bodies are in good balance.

We require some special things to produce good spiritual health and vitality also. Our souls require food plus a proper balance between spiritual concerns and matters of this earthly life. If we concentrate on daily activities such as our work, our family cares and so forth, our souls will starve. If we concentrate solely on spiritual things, our homes will be neglected and we may starve physically. We need a healthy balance between spiritual and natural needs.

"And Jesus answered and said unto her, Martha, Martha, thou art careful and troubled about many things: but one thing is needful; and Mary hath chosen that good part, which shall not be taken away from her." Luke 10:41-42. Martha was out of balance, and Jesus gently reminded her of that. Verse 40 tells of her problem and why she was upset. I'm sure she was concerned about making Jesus welcome, but she hadn't learned to make time for fellowship with Him. She had concentrated on the natural needs and was missing the best part — food for her soul.

Jesus didn't tell Martha to forget her household duties, but He did tell her there was something more important and valuable. Mary was seeking and receiving spiritual food while Martha's energy was directed toward the natural food. We need both, in proper balance. It seems too easy for us to concentrate on our physical and emotional needs while the spiritual is neglected or forgotten entirely. Like Martha, we get out of balance, and the only remedy is to do as Mary did.

Because we are human, we tend to think in human terms. This human nature needs to be brought under God's control. When it is, we will have a healthier, happier life naturally as well as spiritually. Everything will be in better balance as God intended it to be. "This I say then, Walk in the Spirit, and ye shall not fulfill the lust of the flesh." Gal. 5:16. If we concentrate on our spiritual lives as God intends for us to, we won't have as many problems in other areas of life.

A "soft-drink-and-Twinkies" approach to diet will add a big zero to our nutrition and sickness will result. Likewise in the spiritual, poor nutrition will cause soul-sickness. We need a balanced spiritual diet even more than we need proper food. God's Word is our spiritual food and we must have it in order to be healthy spiritually. A healthy spiritual life will help us have a healthy, balanced life in every other way as well. This includes our physical and emotional health.

Balance means without extreme one way or the other, and this balance is needed in all areas of life. "And take heed to yourselves, lest at any time your hearts be overcharged with surfeiting, and drunkenness, and cares of this life, and so that day comes upon you unawares." Luke 21:34. If we concentrate on our soul's needs, this will enable us to keep the matters of daily living in their proper place.

"Hast thou found honey? eat so much as is sufficient for thee, lest thou be filled therewith, and vomit it." Prov. 25:16. Honey is good, but we must eat it in moderation or it will make us sick. This same principle applies to nearly everything. We need to consume the proper amount of food for our health, both naturally and spiritually. A skimpy diet or an unbalanced one causes us problems. We need proper amounts of rest and relaxation as well as physical labor. Our minds must have rest and so must our spirits. An unbalanced life causes soul-problems, and it is important to function as God has directed in all things. Are you?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## DID GOD FIT INTO YOUR SCHEDULE TODAY?

"Ring, ring, ring" there goes the alarm. I think I will sleep, just a half hour longer. Forty-five minutes later, "Oh, my it's late!" Rush, rush, rush. Husband makes it off to work just in time. We had no time to read The Word or even say a prayer.

By now the children need my full attention. A diaper to change and a glass of milk to clean up. The telephone is ringing. Not even time to breath a prayer.

Finally, I can get started on that sink full of dirty dishes. "I'm hungry, mommy."

Where has the morning gone? Well, God maybe this afternoon, we will be able to talk to You.

Nap time! What a relief. Now, I will be able to get a lot of work done. First, I will clean that closet, that hasn't been done for a while. "Oh, there goes the door-bell." So that's how the afternoon passes, without even a thought of Heaven.

Daddy's home! Supper over, dishes done. Good! Now, I can catch up on a few things that should have been done earlier. "Oh, I am so tired. Son, maybe mommy can read you a story and pray with you tomorrow."

Sorry God, but you just didn't fit into my schedule today.

Sister Becky St. John

## CHILDREN - THE GIFT OF GOD

Psalms 127:3-5, "Lo, children are a heritage of the Lord: and the fruit of the womb is his reward. As arrows are in the hand of a mighty man; so are children of the youth. Happy is the man that hath his quiver full of them."

The modern trend today is away from children and the traditional family, and for the husband and wife going their own way with careers and separate lives. We need to return to the scriptures to see the way Brethren of old led their lives: what they valued and what they considered important. In Genesis 33 when Esau confronted Jacob he asked, "Who are those with thee?" Jacob answered, "The children which God hath graciously given thy servant." Jacob was blessed with children, and considered it a blessing. Joseph and Isaiah also considered their children "from the Lord." In Ruth we find that "the Lord gave conception." If we look at today's world we discover dozens of ways to prevent and interrupt pregnancies. We find abortions to be considered a viable means of birth control among the people of this world. If we read and understand the Bible correctly these things should not be even mentioned among the saints, but like everything else we find a need to write about it.

How are these subjects being dealt with in the church today? Are the older sisters encouraging the younger ones to have families? Are children considered a blessing or a burden? The trend is to get away from raising children so we can be independent, do as we please and buy all the trinkets that the world has to offer. But the fashion of this world passes away, along with the satisfaction.

In Psalms 128 we see a picture of the family which God has blessed: "Thy wife shall be as a fruitful vine by the sides of thine house: thy children like olive plants round thy table."

In Proverbs 17:6 it says, "Children's children are the crown of old men; and the glory of children are their fathers." Could it be that the reason why there is so much juvenile delinquency in this age is because our generation has looked upon its children as a burden? We know there are fewer children produced today per family

because too many are considered a burden. In Genesis 1:28 it says, "And God blessed them, and God said unto them, Be fruitful, and multiply, and replenish the earth and SUBDUE it:..."

It is our job to bring forth heritage unto the Lord. It is our responsibility likewise to train up these children also in the ways of God, to the best of our ability, that God would be glorified through us. God would never create a path for us to walk without giving us the grace to walk it.

It would probably be much easier to live life without children. You would probably have fewer financial worries. But there would be no one to cheer you in your youth and to lean on in your old age. You can only expect to be fully blessed of God when you trust Him fully and set out to do all His commandments.

Lynn H. Miller

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

Not by Faith Alone

J. H. Moore

We are told that "without faith it is impossible to please God" (Heb. 11:6), and that "he that believeth not shall be damned" (Mark 16:16). Paul and Silas said to the jailer: "Believe on the Lord Jesus Christ, and thou shalt be saved" (Acts 16:31). Does it, then, follow that one can be saved by faith? Most assuredly. The New Testament teaches that the man who possesses the right kind of faith, has saving faith. Saving faith, however, is the faith taught by Jesus, and affirmed by the apostles. We dare not say "faith alone," for the faith endorsed by the Word of God is never alone. It is invariably accompanied by the duties for which faith calls. The devils had faith, — just that and no more. It merely made them tremble, and that is about as much as may be said of the faith alone doctrine.

Saving faith takes in all that has been enjoined by Christ and the apostles. Faith standing alone counts for nothing in the process of conversion. James says: "Faith, if it hath not works, is dead, being alone" (James 2:17). No one cares knowingly to run the risk of a dead faith, and yet that is just what one has when he bases his hope on faith alone. Genuine faith leads up to duties, and as we advance we shall see what these duties are. God can and will save the man who wills to be saved, for we read that "whosoever will, let him take the water of life freely" (Rev. 22:17). So it will be seen that one's will has a part to play in attaining unto eternal life.

## ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE

### The Season of Generosity?

Most people tend to be generous during the holiday season even if they do not practice this Christian virtue all of the time. Generosity is a quality of one who believes that "the earth is the Lord's and everything in it is His." A generous person doesn't possess his goods in such a way that they possess him. He sees himself as a steward of all that God has given to him and recognizes that God's blessings are to be used for blessing others. Generosity, then, is sharing **UNSELFISHLY** all that God makes us stewards over... our time, gifts, material possessions... with wisdom and a joyful spirit.

Jesus expressed appreciation to people who has shown generosity toward Him. A woman who had a reputation as a sinner anointed Him with oil and ointment. She and other women of the Gospels sometimes traveled with Jesus and the disciples, providing for them with their own funds. (Luke 7:44; 8:3)

The Good Samaritan stands out in bold relief against the priest and Levite, who had neither time nor interest in the man left along the road for dead. The Samaritan gave freely of himself and his money. If we would be good neighbors, we must give what we can. We ARE our brother's keeper.

The story of the widow's mite teaches us that the key question is not "How much should I give?" It is rather "How much should I keep?" When the widow gave, she gave all. The religious leaders' offerings were skimmed off the top, involving no sacrifice. (Luke 21:1-4).

Some people say they would like to be more generous but they don't have the money to do so. If we understand that giving is not related to the amount of money one possesses but how he uses what God gives him, then we see that this statement might well be a defense mechanism to wary away guilt for the lack of the Christ-like spirit.

For most of us, our first memory verse was "For God so loved the world that he gave..." It is possible for us to give without loving but it is impossible for us to love without giving. A generous person gives because he has, and doesn't worry about what he doesn't have. The tragedy of the miserly person is that he is defeated by his own stinginess. We must be channels made for sharing and not cisterns made for hoarding.

Generosity is a divine quality. We are commanded to be like our Father in heaven. He is not only generous, but is in fact, extravagant. When God created the world, He didn't make a minimum

amount of plants. He made an abundance. He didn't make just enough water to get by... He made huge oceans of it. And He made plenty of animals and flowers and stars and mountains. God overflows with generosity.

Ephesians 1 illustrates that we are blessed beyond description. This is one of the reasons God speaks out so harshly against those who withhold from Him. The prophet Haggai upbraided the comfortable Israelites for enjoying their blessings rather than meeting the needs of God's house.

Some people seem naturally generous. Others learn generosity from the good example of friends. Generous people are positive people and they don't consider themselves lucky... they consider themselves blessed. They are enjoyable to talk to because they can attest to the faithfulness of God in many areas of their lives. They not only encourage generosity... they also encourage faith.

Generosity is contagious. It is an adventure. In it you experience the real joy of living.

Giving is investing. You don't lose when you give... you gain. You reap what you sow.

Giving is fellowship. Paul thanked the people at Philippi for uniting with him in the fellowship of giving and receiving. God will allow some Christians to have needs so that others can fellowship with them by meeting their needs. When you increase your fellowship... you increase your giving.

Giving is sacrifice. I believe that God desires us to simplify our life-styles so we will have more to give. Outrageous, extravagant living is wrong... but extravagant giving is right.

Giving is NOW. Don't wait for your better job, or until you get married, or until the children are raised and gone. Generosity will enrich all facets of your life... in each phase... at each age.

Make an investment in the Kingdom. Keep your time, talents, and treasures moving.

"Go Break to the needy sweet charity's bread;  
For giving is living," the angel said.

"And must I be giving again and again?"

My peevish and pitless answer ran.

"Oh no," said the angel, piercing me through,  
"Just give till the Master stops giving to you."

Brother Len Wertz



Christ may wait long, but He will not wait forever.

## DISCIPLINE AND LEADERSHIP

II Kings 17:17, "And they caused their sons and their daughters to pass through the fire, and used divination and enchantments, and sold themselves to do evil in the sight of the Lord, to provoke him to anger."

I Timothy 4:12-13, "Let no man despise thy youth; but be thou an example of the believers, in word, in conversation, in charity, in spirit, in faith, in purity. Till I come, give attendance to reading, to exhortation, to doctrine."

Hebrews 12:6, "For whom the Lord loveth he chasteneth, and scourgeth every son whom he receiveth."

There is no denying the fact that we live in a youth oriented society. It is a time when women dye their hair and men get their hair styled rather than cut in order to look more youthful. The vast majority of radio and television programs are geared toward the youth. The fact that an older man was elected to the office of President was considered almost a miracle. The commercial market is loaded with products that are supposed to help you look and feel more youthful.

This trend has not been escaped by the earthly church. When we study II Kings 17 we find the Israelite people forsaking the way of the Lord and "doing their own thing." This finally led to idol worship and even sacrificing their sons and daughters to pagan gods. We look with askance at the actions of the Israelites. But are we fully without guilt? While we doubt the wisdom of having a television set in the home, many not only have a family set but provide a personal set for their children. The "fire" of evil is set before them day and night. Something much more precious than their lives may be lost. This is only one of the many questionable things that are provided without questions. For many the greatest "sin" that could be committed is to say "no" to a child's request. The scriptures tell us that God has to say "no" to us sometimes. James 4:3 "Ye ask, and receive not, because ye ask amiss, that ye may consume it upon your lusts." In place of this many modern day preachers have taken scriptures out of context and would have you believe that God will give you anything you ask for, just so you have enough faith. It is this type of mentality that has added to the problems of youth. We have, unfortunately, (to a large degree) sacrificed our youth on the altar of amusements and popular trends.

But our second study verse tells us that there is a place to recognize the value of youth. The problem is not in using youth that have proven to have leadership abilities, and by youth we are

referring to those within the eighteen to twenty-five year bracket, but in desiring to put the entire place of leadership in the hands and mindset of youth. In putting the emphasis on the first part of these verses, we have overlooked the need of providing them with good reading material, sound teaching, and most of all the true doctrines of the Church. Because this trend has been followed for many years we now have ministers who not only do not speak on true doctrinal issues but actually condemn them! Although we do not excuse our youth for not following biblical standards in many church circles, neither do we condemn them. They are victims of their elders who no longer see a need to be separate from the world. Christ speaks some terrible words of judgment against these individuals. Matthew 18:6, "But whoso shall offend one of these little ones which believe in me, it were better for him that a millstone were hanged about his neck, and that he was drowned in the depth of the sea." When our children are young we should take the time to play games with them and spend time telling them what we believe, and more important, why we believe it. When these children come to the age of accountability and, hopefully, accept the Lord as their Saviour, our time of teaching does not end. But the difference is that now they must accept the truths for their own. If they only do it to "please Mom and Dad" they will fail in the time of testing.

Our last verse speaks of a practice that is becoming less and less popular in today's society. More and more reform is being advocated in place of punishment. Although capital punishment has been restored in some places, it still seems to lack great support. As Christians this is not an easy issue to deal with. This is why mixing church and state always leads to more problems than solutions. But our major concern goes beyond the punishment of criminals. It is loving punishment that may keep our youth from becoming criminals. We believe it is still proper to punish small children when the need is there. We are not to mistreat them but a spanking can be an act of love. As they grow older a different type of punishment may be best. But we should never allow youth to believe that they will never pay for their mistakes. Some see a difference between discipline and punishment and this may be so. But no matter what word you use, a child should be chastened. A lack of discipline is very evident in most of our church circles. We are busy telling the world how they should live while church members do as they please. We know of no scripture that instructs us to tell government what they should or should not do, but many scriptures speak about church discipline. Sinners will face the wrath of God, but his sons and daughters are the ones he lovingly "chasteneth and scourgeth."

May each of us be willing to be chastened by the Word of God. It will be much better than facing the wrath of eternal Hell. Let us be willing to discipline our children that they may escape this terrible end.

James M. Hite  
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## CHURCH MUSIC

T. H. Barron

We must take this praising of God in song — so often referred to in his Word — and lift it up to the place God designed for it. People have come to look upon the singing in our Churches merely as an entertainment. They go to the house of God to recreate rather than to worship. The preacher is expected to do his share in this entertainment, and the choir to do their part. Hence the music selected must be of a character and kind that will best fill the bill. Music of an operatic character — that which is often light and frivolous is mainly selected. The people must be entertained, even though perishing souls go down to eternal darkness, from our very Church altars. The Church is not reaching out and saving the masses, as she did when she had comparatively few hymns and tunes. Never in the history of the Church has there been as many musical instruments, music books, and musical instructors, as at the present. Much is said and done about music as an art. There are many fine singers, many skillful performers upon instruments. But what the Church of Christ needs in this world of suffering and sin, is music that will reach the hearts of humanity, and so affect them as to make their burdens lighter, mitigate their pain, strengthen their feeble desires for God and good. The music of the sanctuary should be a vehicle into which all should enter, and by its heavenly, uplifting power be borne upward into the holy atmosphere of our God. I believe God intended music to be to his Church a fiery chariot, whereon she, like Elijah, might step and be translated.

We have entirely too many music books — tune books. Sunday schools think they must change their singing books every year, and choirs generally use a tune book until they can begin to sing the pieces with some degree of perfectness, and then the old tunes, as they are called, are cast aside, and a new book is introduced. I enter my protest against such proceedings. In the first place, the Church and the Sunday school ought to use the same book, sing the same tunes. The scholars while in Sunday school can sing like larks, but when they come into the preaching services (if they ever do) they are as silent as mutes. Now I believe we should sing the

same songs in the home that we sing in the Church. Sing the same songs in the Sunday school that we sing in the home and Church. If the Sunday school is the Church (and this is Dr. Vincent's decision), let us use our hymnal, sing our Church songs in all the varied departments and services connected with our "lovely Zion." Let the old hymns of the Wesleys, of Watts, Doddridge, and Cowper, set to the tunes of our old and new anthems, ring out from our home altars and Sunday schools, our prayer meetings and congregations day after day and Sabbath after Sabbath, and it will not be long until the Church will derive a wonderful benefit and power from this singing. We want each member of Christ's body to be able to say,

"My life flows on in endless song,  
How can I keep from singing?"

Secondly, if we would make music helpful to us in our worship and in our revival meetings, we must give it attention. I am sorry to say it has been sadly neglected by the officials of the Church. We have in the Methodist Church provisions made in the Discipline for a committee on Church music. But I venture to say, in nine cases out of ten, they are never consulted about the music of the Church. Now, this committee is one of the most important among the officers of the Church. They should look well to the kind of music used, and how, and by whom sung, and also provide suitable and competent instruction in this delightful study. There should be a weekly, semi-monthly, or monthly singing school in every Methodist society — "one of ye old time singing schools," not the new-fashioned four days' conventions, where all the time is spent in preparing for a concert; but a school where the Church members, old and young, can learn the principles of sol-fa-ing. It may be that as a Church we have been trying to keep pace with the world in too many ways. The Church should not be an opera, theater, or musical convention; but she should look after the instruction of her people in the principles of music. Let us call back the old-time singing school — or something similar, and let all our people learn to sing. In many places the various Churches are waking up to the importance of this subject, and are beginning to give it the attention it demands. A late editorial in the "Western" on this subject has the right ring. Let the mighty volume of congregational singing hush into forgetfulness all the strife and discord of this mortal life, and

"Let those refuse to sing,  
Who never knew our God.  
But servants of our heavenly king,  
Should sing his praise abroad."

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

December 1, 1926

### DOING GOD'S WILL

L. I. Moss

In the first chapter of the Gospel of John we get a good idea of what the word is and how it was brought to us. In verse 14 we learn the word became flesh and came and dwelt among us. This provision was made for us because of the love of God as expressed in John 3:16 and also in John 17 in the prayer Jesus prayed for us.

Now if God so loved us and gave his son for us, Jesus gave his life for us, and all the needed preparations for our eternal happiness has been made. Should we not be glad to obey his word and will, when every part of it has been given for our good. Obedience to the will of God will make better men and women in this life, we will be better citizens in a community, and better people in the church, and will be better prepared to meet our Lord at the close of life. There is too much so-called obedience, which God will not recognize at all.

People say they obey the Spirit of the Gospel. Like many people with the Gospel of John on feet washing, they say any act of humility toward our brother, will fulfill the spirit of the Gospel, so we might go through many of the other teachings of the New Testament and they say you can be obedient to the gospel and spiritualize everything and not literally observe and do the things taught in the word. James says in the second chapter 26th verse, faith apart from works is dead. Also the 17th verse says the same. In fact the whole second chapter of James teaches the literal doing of things in order to be obedient.

How are you going to obey the will of God in baptism without the literal act? How will you obey the gospel in five places on the salutation of the kiss with a stiff arm handshake?

Our entrance into the kingdom of heaven depends on our obedience to God's will (Matt. 7:21). The text does not use the word obey, but it uses a term fully as strong, that of doing God's will.

Now there is a negative side to this question too. If obedience is the condition of entering the kingdom, disobedience is absolutely the act which will bar people out of the kingdom.

Another question, how much of God's will do we need to disobey to close the door against us? Just read James 2:10 and see how much you want to take a chance on for yourself. A good many people will be like a doctor one time said to me, — he was taking a

chance on eternity. I asked him what his chances was worth, he said nothing.

My dear readers let us not take a chance but so obey God and his word that we may have the assurance Paul had in II Timothy 4:6-8, and when we do all in our power by the help of God, his Spirit and his word then we have nothing to boast of. We can only say we are unprofitable servants, we have done that which was our duty to do. (Luke 17:10)

This is why the Dunkard Brethren Church is in existence, we stand for a fuller obedience to the Gospel, and earnestly plead with all to live and walk closer to God.

## NEWS ITEMS

### PRESIDING ELDERS

NOW is the time for all changes in the Ministerial and Deacon Lists for the February 1, 1987 Bible Monitor to be sent to the Editor. Any other changes or corrections that need to be made should also be reported. This is important. Thank you for your prompt response by January 1, 1987.

The Editor

### SHREWSBURY, PENNSYLVANIA

We have many pleasant memories of our Revival Meetings in August. Our evangelist, Bro. Dennis St. John brought us many challenging and inspiring messages. We also enjoyed the fellowship from other congregations and other visitors. May the Lord bless Bro. and Sis. St. John and family for coming to our congregation and as they go in other fields of labor.

Our Lovefeast, in November, was another spiritual experience with sharing in the Lord's work, and the fellowship with those from near and as far as Indiana and California. We were happy for all who came. We thank the visiting ministers: Elders Joshua Rice, Frank Shaffer, and Robert Carpenter, who officiated in the evening.

Sister Fern Ness, Cor.



Carnal men love the god they make, but not the God that made them.

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(USPS 054-780)

# BIBLE MONITOR

VOL. LXIV

DECEMBER 15, 1986

NO. 24

"For the faith once delivered unto the saints"

OUR MOTTO: Spiritual in life and  
Scriptural in practice.

OUR WATCHWORD: Go into all  
the world and preach the gospel.

OUR AIM: Be it our constant aim to be more sanctified, more righteous,  
more holy, and more perfect through faith and obedience.

## THERE IS NO NAME SO SWEET

There is no name so sweet on earth,  
No name so dear in Heaven,  
As that before His wondrous birth  
To Christ the Savior given.

'Twas Gabriel first that did proclaim,  
To His most blessed mother,  
That name which now and ever more  
We praise above all other.

And when He hung-upon the tree,  
They wrote His Name above Him,  
That all might see the reason we  
Forevermore must love Him.

So now upon His Father's throne,  
Almighty to relieve us  
From sin and pain, He ever reigns  
The Prince and Savior Jesus.

- George W. Bethune

## RESPECT

Another Christmas season is upon us. There is much hustle and bustle. There are parties, banquets, gift exchanges, carolings and many other activities in honor of the season. We are all too familiar with the stress, tiredness and ill temper of this season. Often it is a season to be endured, rather than enjoyed. But as we pause to look at these things, do we find that we are really respecting the One for whom the day is set aside?

Christmas is a reminder of God's gift to mankind. It reminds us that we could not save ourselves, no matter how much money we have, how many gifts we give, how helpful we try to be or how good we are. The season should remind us that without God's gift we would have no hope. Yet as we look about us at the usual celebration of this season we see very little true respect shown to the Giver of the Perfect Gift. Fearfully the activities of the season bear little relation to the Babe laid in a Bethlehem manger. These activities instead show a desire to fulfill men's physical desires. There is a great lack of self control in the name of the One who wants total control of our hearts and lives. The irony of the true meaning of Christmas as compared to the usual way it is celebrated is striking.

Certainly if any one of us were having a birthday we would find it strange if those invited to celebrate it with us would ignore us and instead treat themselves to the pleasures of the occasion. We would feel our friends did not have the proper respect for us.

Respect is an earned honor. No one deserves respect more than the God of Heaven. As the Creator and Sustainer of this Earth, He

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THE BIBLE MONITOR

DECEMBER 15, 1986

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Published semi-monthly by the Board of Publication of the Dunkard Brethren Church in the plant of Glanz Printing, Inc., 4017 Co. Rd. 11, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Entered as Second Class matter at the Post Office, Wauseon, Ohio 43567.

Terms: Single subscription \$2.00 a year in advance.

Send all subscriptions and communications to the editor.

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deserves our respect and honor. As the Judge of all mankind He deserves our respect and fear. As the Giver of peace within and salvation throughout Eternity, He deserves our respect and gratitude. His wisdom and works are far beyond our finite comprehension, so He is deserving of all the respect we can, do and should show Him, plus even more. Our respect for Him may be shown every day of the year, not just this Christmas season.

When thinking of God we must realize His trine form. It is a mystery that baffles the wisest of men but capable of being received by the faith of the lowest of men. Our respect extends to Jesus the Son of God, the Second Person of the Trinity. Without the Great Three-in-One, there would be a lack in our Christian doctrine and lives. Our respect toward God can be shown in many ways. On the other hand we may also be disrespectful toward God in many other ways.

We must exercise due vigilance in our lives and attitudes that we are respectful toward Him. The way we use or abuse this Christmas season is one test of our respect for Him. But since our respect is to be shown daily we need to be careful daily in the way we approach, worship and serve Him. We dare not be flippant or insincere in our worship. God is not a "buddy"; He is God. He should be approached in our prayers and in our conversation with the respect He deserves. Our English language contains words that are expressly designed to convey our worshipful respect.

Respect is shown in ways other than by words. It is very easy to speak correctly, but it may be more difficult to act correctly, even when we know what is expected. Even when good things are done contrary to His Word they lose their good for there is a lack of respect for the God whose will is revealed in the Bible. The promises of the Bible are many but there are responsibilities of obedience that accompany them. Jesus spoke of love being shown Him by obedience. If obedience is not present, the necessary respect is gone also. When personal appearance, dress and activities are contrary to the Bible's directions there is a lack of respect for God.

Those who respect God will also respect their fellow men. Christians will especially respect fellow believers through love, encouragement and sharing. Christians also must respect those who are not their fellow believers although it will be on a different level. All men have been created by God so are due the Christian's respect without regard for race, habits, beliefs or appearance. Respect does not include companionship with them in their evil ways. Respect can best be shown by maintaining the proper respect for God in activities and appearances before them.

Respect is in short supply in the world today. There is disrespect for others. There is disrespect for authority. There is a growing disrespect shown toward God, through word and deed. This disrespect is not only evident during the Christmas season but throughout the year. May we be careful that, although we are Christians, we do not become disrespectful toward God ourselves.

Are your Christmas activities respectful toward God, Jesus and the Holy Spirit? Are your year round activities also respectful?

## GIFT OF LOVE

"Greater love hath no man than this, that a man lay down his life for his friends." John 15:13. When we read this verse, we think of Jesus' Crucifixion, the time when He suffered and died for us. We know it was because of love that He suffered much for our sakes at that time. But even before this, there is evidence of His special love for us. Jesus' whole earthly life was planned and directed toward a full revelation of His love, and it started at Bethlehem.

At this time of year, the festivities remind the world of the birth of Christ. To some, it is meaningless; to others it is just a time to be sentimental and to have a good time. To those of us who believe in Christ, His birth is the first in a series of events which tell us He loves us. Jesus set aside His glory and all His privileges to be with us for a while in human form, so He could be our Savior.

Though a king, He became a pauper — for our sakes. Few in this world have been born in a manger, but Jesus was, because no place else was available. Few if any of us have been in danger because of an angry king, but Jesus was. When Joseph, Mary and Jesus set out for Egypt, there was no train or plane to make it a fast, comfortable trip. It was instead a difficult and tiresome journey for all three. This was God's means of preserving Jesus' life and this too was for us.

"For God so loved the world, that he gave his only begotten son." (John 3:16) This is a very special love, far beyond our comprehension, as we wouldn't likely give a child for anyone. Yet God gave His Son for us. When the angel spoke to the shepherds, he said, "I bring you good tidings of great joy." It surely does bring us joy to know how much God and Jesus love us, and to know that this love reaches out to anyone who will receive it.

No matter what part of Jesus' life you look at, it reveals His love for us. Yet many did not love Him, not even when He was a babe. King Herod thought of Him only as a threat, and the religious leaders of the day weren't interested. They knew what was to happen (the Messiah was to be born), and where (in Bethlehem),

but didn't realize it had already happened. Jesus had been born in Bethlehem as prophesied, and He would in time complete His earthly task, but again, the scribes and Pharisees weren't interested in what He had to offer.

As you think of the birth of Christ, I suggest you read Matthew 1:21-2:23, and Luke 2:1-40. This event created quite a stir, from the journey to Bethlehem to pay the taxes, to the time when the wise men visited Herod. Some of the people touched by Christ's birth loved Him and received Him gladly, but others hated Him. Jesus is God's gift of love to us, and we ought to love Him in return. Do you?

Sister Eileen Broadwater

## **ESPECIALLY FOR YOUNG PEOPLE**

### **"Happy Holidays"**

"Happy Holidays"... the sound of this greeting rings everywhere this beautiful season... but just what makes for "happy holidays?" Is it the glitter, the decorations, the hustle and bustle, the presents? Oh, I'll admit these things are nice and appeal to our human nature, but what really makes these days happy?

We should be focusing on Jesus' birth and the great reality of the incarnation during this season... God becoming a man and the tremendous greatness of the miracle of divine energy that brought Him into human history. Our holidays have been cluttered by needless paraphernalia which creates an environment where most people miss the reality of what it is. Christmas is not just a current holiday... it is EVERYTHING, a total lifestyle to the real Christian. To the world, celebrating Christmas is just a big party but I am afraid that Jesus wouldn't come to most of the parties. In fact, they would probably rather that He didn't. How can you celebrate and reject the One whom you should be honouring? To accept Him at the party is to acknowledge the reality of who He is and this would require a change in the life. Celebrations, rather than being for Him, are frequently at His expense.

Jesus came that we might have "life and have it more abundantly." (John 10:10) Do we, like the world, evaluate the good life relative to our "stuff" and "things?" Our society is literally filled with the meaningless, the insignificant and unnecessary. We are busy figuring out what we want and how we are going to get it. These thoughts dominate our thinking so much during this season that we will go into debt to the point of pain for the mundane and meaningless. I believe gifts can be very special without having to be dictated by an ungodly, materialistic society. The Lord says that

those things which are esteemed highly by the world are an abomination to Him. He hates them!

I have often thought of how Jesus chose to reveal Himself as the Messiah to shepherds, the simple people of the countryside. These were a despised group because they couldn't maintain all of the ceremonial activities of the Jewish faith because they were too busy tending to their sheep. These outcasts were the only ones to come and see their Saviour. Would we have been one of them or would we have been so far up in the Jewish or Roman society that we would have chosen to ignore Him. Could the answer to this question reflect on our attitude about Jesus... and Christmas today?

Of course, Simeon and Anna were looking for the Messiah and they were excited about this happy day. They had waited with great anticipation for His coming and shared the good news when it happened. Jerusalem wouldn't listen. They were too busy and too concerned with the eternal.

If you were offered Jesus or an alternative of money, great material wealth, world wide power or fame, which would you accept? Would you have any regrets? The options to Jesus are the idols of the twentieth century and if you are worshiping them, you won't really have a "Happy Holiday." Why? Because "Happiness is the Lord."

A "Happy Holiday" is being able to look up into the heavens and see the reality of a living God. The stars, uncountable to us, are called by name by the Creator. Just a glimpse at them is to take in some of the vast mysteries of the universe.

A "Happy Holiday" is understanding that God's Word became flesh and dwelt among us. The mystery of life, which had only been a secret up to this time, had been revealed. In a tiny stable in Bethlehem, God expressed Himself to us in a very special way. He scaled Himself down to human size for thirty-three years.

A "Happy Holiday" is sharing Jesus with someone else. To share the need for repentance, baptism and the NEW life will make this a time you will never forget. This is the LIVING gift... the one that will last forever. You don't have to look for a warranty here. It is profoundly confirmed in God's Word.

A "Happy Holiday" is recommitment. This will lead to a year long joy and radiance. Your life can be filled with glowing splendor with a renewed presence of spirit and mind. You can take on a new glow of radiance. Your life can be filled with glowing splendor with a renewed presence of spirit and mind. You can take on a new glow of radiance as others are touched by your gift of commitment.

A "Happy Holiday" is one that sees a life filled with a new LOVE

for Jesus and His work. That is a gift that can spread across the world. To love Jesus more is to pray more and this will spark your life in such a way as to ignite the hand of God. This gift can give you power beyond comprehension.

This Christmas have a very "Happy Holiday." Choose Jesus and keep your heart open and tender to His will. Let Him saturate your presence with beauty and take possession of your life. Listen to His still, small voice. Don't let Satan rob you of the prefectness of this holiday. Claim Christ's light and be His reflector. Select the gift of obedience to experience the real adventure and challenge He has for you.

Brother Len Wertz

## **NO ROOM FOR THE PRECIOUS SAVIOUR**

Long ago in the time of the Old Dispensation, men of God prophesied of the coming and birth of Christ. It is marvelous to think how God has revealed to man His future plan concerning this matter. I believe it is of great value for us to meditate on the many things God has revealed to man.

He was a man of sorrow for sin and yet rejected of men who needed His cleansing. At birth He was laid in a manger because there was no room for Him in the inn. Soon after He came to earth a wicked king was seeking to destroy His life. At that time many did not appreciate the precious Saviour.

What manner of love God has bestowed upon us that He gave His only begotten son to be sacrificed for our redemption. Christ was willing to lay down His life for sinful humanity. Many seek only for earthly gain, that is perishable. We are to put our affections on things above. Many are putting earthly things before and above the eternal things of God.

Jesus commanded what we should do. These things must be put away from our lives: pride, adultery, envy, hatred, lying, jealousy, fornication, covetousness, and all evil. Jesus cannot enter or live within lives that are overcome and overflowing with sin. We sometimes sing:

O, let the dear Savior come in,  
He'll cleanse the heart from sin;  
O, keep him no more, out at the door,  
But let the dear Savior come in.

When He was here on earth many experienced His precious healing power for the infirmities of the flesh. His power awaits to cleanse and heal us from the infirmities of sin. In our day many do

not realize the value of a Saviour who is worth more than all the gold and silver in this world. Many oppose Him because He opposed the evil way of life. Precious are those who are laid to rest in Christ Jesus. Their works do follow them.

He brought joy to the world and He will bring joy and peace into the lives of all true Christians. He came that we might have life and have it more abundantly. Many did not respect Him or honor Him and rather found fault. He was filled with wisdom and the Grace of God. Do we who profess to be followers of Christ show to the world that we appreciate Christ our Saviour? No one should stand opposed to truth and righteousness. Christ is our shield and protection from the shadows and works of darkness. Can we truly say,

Blessed assurance, Jesus is mine  
Oh, what a foretaste of glory divine!

Christ's birth made it possible for us to be born into the kingdom of God. We should adorn the doctrine of our Saviour in all ways. His birth brought spiritual light and light to the world. Those who receive the new birth from Christ have spiritual life and are a light to the world. He was a great example of peace and justice. Have we accepted His example. He showed great sympathy and was always ready to be a blessing to others. He performed many miracles, healed the sick and raised the dead.

He was not appreciated by many because of their evil hearts. Those who have accepted the plan of salvation are not controlled by envy, hatred and strife. The weapons of the Christians warfare are not carnal. Those who have the Christian Spirit have all the fruits of the spirit and truth and righteousness flows forth like fountains of living water.

It was prophesied long before Christ came to earth that men would not receive Him and many did not realize His value. When we accept Christ He will bring peace and joy into our lives. Peace not as the world gives peace, but peace that passeth all understanding and joy the world can never give.

Today there are many professing ministers of the Gospel who are failing to throw out the Gospel warning to those who are living in sin. The world is full of folly, it should not be in the Churches. Through Christ we can have the keys of the kingdom, power over evil spirits, living water, bread of heaven and eternal life. Let us take heed to God's Holy Word lest we be led into a false security and will receive no benefits through the greatest gift of God.

Christ was always obedient to the Heavenly Father. Christ's coming brought joy and peace to the world. How many will receive joy and peace at His second coming? There was no room for Him

in the inn and to a large extent no room in the hearts of mankind. The great example is set, the true foundation is laid, under no other foundation is there salvation. He is the chief cornerstone of the Church and on Him hangs all the law and the prophets. When Christ was baptized in the River Jordan God spake from heaven, "This is my beloved son in whom I am well pleased."

Today there are people inviting others to accept the way of salvation who have not accepted it themselves. Let us take the true way of salvation. The place we will spend eternity is decided by whether or not we have room for the salvation of Jesus in our lives.

Brother J. F. Marks  
804 W. Sundial Loop  
Plant City, FL 33566

## SIXTY YEARS AGO

December 15, 1926

ASHAMED OF JESUS

Elsie Long

It seems this world is full of people who are ashamed of Jesus and even people who profess to be his followers. Why! Are they more desirous to be praised by men than to be acceptable in the sight of God? Why should we be ashamed of Christ who came to earth, was despised and rejected by men yet died for them? None were ashamed of the boys who died for their country in the late war, then why be of Christ who died to save the souls of the whole world? On the contrary we ought to witness for him, exalt him, and praise him at all times. Why despise him and cling to the world? It has nothing to offer but emptiness. Can it be possible for a mortal man to be ashamed of Jesus on whom his hope of heaven depends? Are we unwilling to dress and be a separate people as the New Testament teaches for fear our friends will criticize us? It is time we are looking to God for approval instead of man for we cannot please them all anyway. We find it easy to confess Christ when we are among Christians: we may have found it delightful to trust him in gatherings of his people, to send up our testimony and bear witness for him. But it is possible, not to say probable, that we find it difficult to make the same confession when we are in our homes, and in our ordinary surroundings. The fear of man always brings a snare. This is the devil's own snare — the trouble and difficulty of the spiritual duty of confession. And yet if it is not dealt with at once there can be nothing but spiritual defeat in our lives. Marvel not, my brethren, if the world hate you. (I John 3:13) It also hated Christ and remember his grace is sufficient for us. In I Peter

4:16 we read, "yet if any man suffer as a Christian let him not be ashamed; but let him glorify God on this behalf." Also in Philippians 1:20, according to my earnest expectation and my hope that in nothing I shall be ashamed, but that with all boldness, as always, so now also Christ shall be magnified in my body whether it be by life or death. Paul was not ashamed of the gospel of Christ.

Do you believe on Christ? Whosoever believeth on him shall not be ashamed. (Romans 9:33)

Though people are ashamed of Christ now there will come a time when they will not be but Christ will be ashamed of them for he says in Mark 8:38, "Whosoever therefore shall be ashamed of me and of my words in this adulterous and sinful generation; of him also shall the Son of man be ashamed when he cometh in the glory of his Father with the holy angels." How sad the thought. The approval of the world which lasts for a few years cannot be compared with the approval of God which lasts through eternity. May we truly say with the poet:

"Ashamed of Jesus! Empty pride,  
I'll boast a Saviour crucified  
And O may this my portion be,  
My Saviour not ashamed of me."

### **"IN THE POTTER'S HANDS"**

Did you ever think of your life  
As clay in "The Potter's Hands?"  
After you've become a Christian  
Your life should be as God plans.

He wants you a perfect "vessel"  
With no disfiguration ...  
So may allow you to be "marred"  
To keep you from ruination.

It's when you're "broken down" that God  
Will take you and mold you for Heav'n,  
When you yield to "The Potter's Hands"  
A new body you will be giv'n.

But some just won't yield to God's hands,  
They "harden" - and that way stay ...  
They are not fit for the kingdom -  
So they will be "cast away."

It takes only a "grain of sand" -  
Or a "small sin" (may I say) -  
To get you off of God's strait path  
Where Satan can lead astray.

He'll take you on the "downward path" -  
Telling you "wrong" is all "right" -  
He's a deceiver, and will take  
Your chance for "Eternal Light."

Take no heed to his beckoning,  
He has no good to offer,  
Just fire, brimstone, and gnashing teeth,  
When worldly pleasures allure.

Be subject to Christ and His Word,  
Give praise and honor where due,  
Your Sovereign God can then mold you ...  
Your frail life is shaped anew.

Then He will make known His riches,  
Preparing you with mercy, -  
Molding your "vessel" with His hands,  
Preparing you for Glory.

- Sister Irene Stout  
R. 1 Box 160, Wabash, IN

## THE SOVEREIGN MAJESTY OF GOD AND HIS WORD

Romans 9:20-21, "Nay, but, O man, who art thou that repliest against God? Shall the thing formed say to him that formed it, Why hast thou made me thus? Hath not the potter power over the clay, of the same lump to make one vessel unto honour, and another unto dishonour?"

Matthew 24:35 "Heaven and earth shall pass away, but my words shall not pass away."

Revelation 10:9 "And I went unto the angel, and said unto him, Give me the little book, And he said unto me, Take it, and eat it up; and it shall make thy belly bitter, but it shall be in thy mouth sweet as honey."

Our first verse taken from the book of Romans is, admittedly, found in a very difficult portion of scripture. Some groups and individuals have tried to use this portion of scripture to prove that man has no free will. This, of course, would nullify the larger portion of scripture. However, because of the misuse of this scripture many have refused to deal with it. We believe this has been one of the causes of a progressive movement that disavows the sovereign majesty of God and His Word, although it gives lip service to this truth.

God in His wisdom, has given us a system of authority. This is found in I Corinthians 11:3 "But I would have you know, that the

head of every man is Christ; and the head of the woman is the man; (some versions weaken this by changing "man" into "husband") and the head of Christ is God." Various verses, we will not take the time or space to quote, take this God ordained principle and use it in practical applications. But the "clay" rebels against the "potter" and accuses anyone who upholds this principle of being prejudiced and making a woman inferior. On the other hand, many men who claim to be followers of Christ refuse to accept the authority God has ordained for them. In this case the "clay" says unto the "potter," "What right do you have to give me responsibility I do not want?"

But the problems do not end here. Do we accuse God as being unfair when He puts an individual into a leadership position when we think we are more qualified than they? We may not do this directly but our words and actions toward the individual betray our true feelings. How about situations we find ourselves in that are less than pleasant? We are not suggesting that God gets pleasure out of seeing His children suffer. But our suffering is often due to our refusing to follow the sovereign will of God. We follow our own selfish way then complain when it brings us hardship. Then the "clay" often says to the "potter," "You have to change your rules to get me out of this mess." This brings us to our next thought.

Does God have rules? This is an area that is becoming very unpopular in church circles. Many would have you believe that any and all rules are made by man. The greatest sin you can commit in many church circles is to take a scriptural truth and give it a practical application. What was Christ referring to in our second verse taken from the book of Matthew? We believe first of all He was telling us that what He prophesied would surely come to pass. But we also believe that we are not doing a dis-service to holy scripture when we understand these words to refer to all scripture. In Ephesians 2:19-20 we read, "Now therefore ye are no more strangers and foreigners, but fellowcitizens with the saints, and of the household of God: And are built upon the foundation of the apostles and prophets, Jesus Christ himself being the chief cornerstone;" But the "clay" says to the "potter", "We do not like the things that Paul and Peter along with the other New Testament writers have told us to do." We want to make God into a "thing" bound by historical culture. This is what is behind much of the present "mother-God" type of thinking. If we take away the Creator God and replace Him with a system of theistic evolution, what He tells us in His Word loses its importance. When we make Jesus Christ into a mere man in place of the God-man of scripture He loses His place of authority. When we make the Holy Bible into just another good book we leave all judgment of right and wrong in

the hands of fallible man. But even those who accept these cardinal truths, to a large degree, spend large amounts of time trying to explain why scripture does not mean what it says.

Whatever your understanding of our final verse taken from the book of Revelation, we hope we can agree that it refers to the Word of God in one form or another. We enjoy "eating" those verses that go into our mouth and are sweet as honey. But when they are translated into practical applications (go into our belly) they often become bitter. Then the "clay" says to the "potter", "I give you my time, talent, and money, but do not try to rule my personal life."

We want to worship God in ways that we choose and feel that God MUST accept our worship because we give it to Him. Never mind that God has given us rules against mixing carnal and spiritual things. If we keep God "up in Heaven on His throne" we have no trouble worshipping Him and giving Him honor. But when He desires to sit upon the throne of our hearts, many tell Him to mind His own business! It is easier to repeat a written prayer in unison than to truly repent from the heart of our disobedience and rebellion. Let's talk about world problems and treating people fair, but do not bother us with the sovereign majesty of God that makes demands on our lives.

If you are unsaved God desires to be on the throne of your heart by giving you the gift of Jesus Christ and His shed blood for your sin. If you are a Christian, God desires to be the loving ruler of your life. Are you willing to allow Him to be the sovereign guide?

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## THOUGHTS ON FAITH

If we act only because our path is clear of difficulty, this is not faith. Faith acts upon God's Word whatever the difficulty; and to walk by faith brings highest glory to God; but it is a crucifying the flesh.

To be strong in faith two things are needful — a very low esteem of ourselves, and a very high esteem of Christ.

The chief excellency of faith is that it brings us into fellowship with God. Abel — the first spoken of in Hebrews 11 — is commended, not because of any great deed on man's account, but because he worshipped God acceptably. Nevertheless, if we trust God, there is no limit to the power of faith, whatever the thing to be done.

God shelters the weak in faith from many a storm, whereby the strong in faith must be proven. (Genesis 22)

When a man builds house or ship, he takes heed that no beam be strained; so God never overtaxes our faith, but brings comfort, knowing our frame, not suffering us to have sorrow upon sorrow, according to Phil. 2:27.

Faith, which always acts according to the mind of Christ, stoops to no unworthy device for deliverance from trial, leaving consequences wholly with God.

We must not be deceived by appearances, but be sustained by promises. When Jacob looked upon Joseph's coat, which had been brought to Him, he should have said, "I see the coat that is covered with blood; I hear the report of the death of Joseph; but, Lord, I believe Thy Word — Thy promises concerning the greatness and the glory of my son: what thou has spoken thou wilt perform."

Unbelief begets all sorts of evils; faith prevents and cures them.

Would that the saints of God tried themselves by this test: "How much do I believe?" instead of "How much do I know?"

Faith labors, and holds on, despite of all appearances, and in the midst of all difficulties.

Rather let us look by faith to Christ at God's right hand, than at the mountain of difficulties before our eyes.

One of the best answers to prayer is to be able to continue in prayer.

All things that are within the compass of God's promises are within the compass of faith.

Faith can bear the test of death and burial, and can sing praises to God under any circumstances.

The prayer of self-will may get its answer, as with the Israelites: "He gave them their request, but sent leanness into their soul." Ps. 106:15.

What is the food and nourishment of faith? "My flesh is meat indeed, and my blood is drink indeed." John 6:55.

To take God at His Word is the business of faith.

Faith can never fail of the reward of perseverance: The Lord delights in preserving faith.

Selected by Lynn H. Miller

## THE NEW TESTAMENT DOCTRINES

Repentance

J. H. Moore

Repentance means a reformation of life. It further means to "cease to do evil; learn to do well." Isaiah 1:16-17. Jesus makes

repentance imperative, and what he once said, regarding those who were killed by the falling of the tower of Siloam, applies to all: "Except ye repent, ye shall all likewise perish." Luke 13:5. Furthermore, when the Master sent his apostles into all the world to preach the Gospel to every creature, he said unto them that "repentance and remission of sins should be preached among all nations." Luke 24:47. In his famous address on Solomon's porch, Peter told the people that they should "repent... and be converted." Acts 3:19. He would have them understand that repentance was one of the necessary steps in the process of conversion. Paul looked upon repentance as an essential part of the Gospel and of universal application, for in his address on Mars' Hill he said, God "commandeth all men everywhere to repent." Acts 17:30.

This doctrine, as one of the divinely-appointed conditions of pardon, was urged by Peter on the Day of Pentecost. To those inquiring after the way of salvation he said: "Repent, and be baptized every one of you, in the name of Jesus Christ, for the remission of sins." Acts 2:38. If, what Peter says, be true, — and it is, for he spake as he was guided by the Spirit, — it follows that without repentance there can be no salvation from sin. The man who would be saved must not only believe in the Lord Jesus, but he must repent. There must be a godly sorrow for sin, a turning away from a life of sin, to be followed by a life of faithfulness. It is not sufficient to cease doing evil. There must be fruits meet for repentance, and this means obedience, or going forward in the line of duty.

## OBITUARY

### HAROLD UMLAND

Harold James Umland, son of Frank and Nancy (Northway) Umland, was born July 2, 1906 near Granger, Iowa. He departed this life August 21, 1986 at Iowa Lutheran Hospital, Des Moines, Iowa at the age of 80 years.

Harold was baptized in the fall of 1949. On November 1, 1949, he was united in marriage to Anna Flora. To this union was born two children: Carolyn Cavner, Perry, Iowa and David B. Umland, Stuart, Iowa. Besides his wife and children, Harold is survived by four grandchildren; one sister, Mary Broadbent, Des Moines, Iowa; one half brother, Kenneth Knight of California; nieces and nephews.

He was preceded in death by his parents, two brothers and one son-in-law.

Services were held at the Dallas Center Dunkard Brethren Church, August 25, 1986 with Brethren Fred Pifer, Alvin Chupp and Ray Reed officiating.

## ADULT SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JANUARY 1987

January 4 - The Power of God Unto Salvation - Romans 1:1-17.

1. What is the power that brings salvation?
2. In what life is Paul referring to in verse 17?

January 11 - The Wrath of God - Romans 1:18-32.

1. Against whom is the wrath of God revealed?
2. Is there danger of men and women of today falling into God's wrath?

January 18 - Judging - Romans 2:1-29.

1. Are we as Christians, permitted to sit in judgment of one another?
2. What did Jesus tell those that accused the woman taken in adultery? John 8:7.

January 25 - Justification By Faith - Romans 3:1-31.

1. What difference were there between those who were under the law and those under grace?
2. In what way are all justified? Acts 4:12.

## YOUNG PEOPLE'S SUNDAY SCHOOL LESSONS FOR JANUARY 1987

January 4 - Our Christian Calling - Matt. 22:1-14, I Cor. 1:23-31, Eph. 1:17-23.

1. Who is called? Rev. 22:17.
2. Who does the calling?

January 11 - Our Profession - Ps. 78:32-39, Matt. 7:18-23, Titus 1:13-16.

1. What is the true mark of a Christian? John 3:18.
2. In what way does the world read us?

January 18 - Ambassadors - Prov. 13:14-17, II Cor. 5:17-21, Eph. 6:10-24.

1. What is an ambassador? Mark 16:15.
2. Every country of the world has an ambassador. What country do we represent?

January 25 - Chosen Instruments - John 15:14-17, I Cor. 1:27, Heb. 3:12-14.

1. How do we choose an instrument for a task we are doing?
2. As instruments of Christ how may we best serve Him?











